

#### Red tape cuts NZ out of product were freely and abundantly available in both New Zealand and Australia, said the New Zealand subby Rae Mazengarb II(HE prospect of dealing with il ficials from 11 separate

overnment agencies to itablish operations here has filed out New Zealand as a cation option for an inarnational corporation eking an investment of up to 20 million in the South

Instead, it will set up its anufacturing plant in

The corporation was further eterred by what it condered a "naive" attitude to breign investment. New Zealand has been ruled

ut, too, from a proposal by the orporation to establish a acific region management iffice. It had appeared olitically, climatically and nvironmentally an attractive ocation, but Government bolicies were considered a 'gross discouragement' to potential investors.

The managing director of the corporation's New Zealand subsidiary wrote to NBR to point out that New Zealand had appeared ideal for the establishment of manufacturing plant to supply the Pacific region with the corporation's commodity.

But when the company sought to ascertain the extent of Government interest in the proposal and determine what support it might be given, it received what looked to be a negative response. And the morass of bureaucratic involvement brought a hait to further investigation in this

The company is the world lominant manufacturer of a a roduct used extensively by the steel, foundry and abrasive

It was aware of a potential variance developing between iemand and supply of this commodity in the west-south Pacific region, and decided it should locate a manufacturing plant in the region.

sidiary's managing director. Thus the feasibility of both countries as possible locations had to be studied.

The operation appeared to fit New Zealand development criteria. Raw materials were indigenous and their use posed no ecological problems, the industry would be in a depressed region, it would employ more than 100 men, the capital would be of American origin and at least 99 per cent of production would be exported at comparable world

Electricity was required, but the corporation did not consider the amount significant in power-planning terms. Government investment was

To determine the degree of Government interest and support, the company first approached a senior member of Government.

At this initial meeting, in-terest in the project appeared high, but the company was cautioned it must be patient in dealing with the bureacracy. The company was advised to

keep as much of the negotiation on a personal basis and as much out of the hands of departments as possible.

But at the next meeting, attended by officials from

several departments, company representatives were told that they would be required to deal separately and individually with 11 departments or authorities.

After the meeting, a Department of Trade and Industry official wrote to the company setting out in detail the information required from it prior to "granting your company permission to establish this industry".

The company reacted: "We are not seeking 'permission' to plant in the region. establish this industry; we are All the raw materials for the endeavouring to determine the

degree of your Government's travel and tele-communication reimbursed to New Zealand support and interest and links with both the United from the United States corsome indication of what States and the West and South assistance may be offered us if Pacific region. Establishment we were to bring this industry to your country.

costs were lower here than in the other optional locations — american executive relocating

to your country.

"We are not prepared to conduct a detailed on-site" the other optional locations — American executive relocating himself to New Zealand, at 60 But against New Zealand as per cent in New Zealand feasibility study which vir- a location went the 10 per cent compared with 32 per cent in tually wants to know how travel tax and the fact that the Australia and a mere 15 per much petty cash we will have regional executive was cent in Hong Kong. in five years' time, prior to required to make repeated More intiquitous, from the finding out whether your individual application for company's point of view, was Government is even overseas funds each time he the fact that although the interested.'' travelled outside the country executive would spend 50 per

From the company's (which would be frequent). cent of his time outside the rewpoint, the Government These conditions existed country, his total income was viewpoint, the Government had been approached with a even though the air fares and subject to New Zealand in-proposal which it felt would the foreign exchange would be come tax. benefit New Zealand. Before carrying out further costly work, the company wanted only some expression of the cooperation and interest which could be expected from

Government. Instead, the company received a reaction "based on the posture that New Zealand had something our corporation wanted and that the Department therefore was in a position to set conditions prior to granting 'permission'."

The managing director of the New Zealand subsidiary pointed out that to establish such an industry in this country meant dealing with an

vestors, the Malaysian Government has established a single Governmental authority to resolve all Governmentinterest problems for potential

The company suspended its investigation in New Zealand and headed for Australia. The reception there was one of keenness to attract such an investment.

On first approach, the State Government concerned expressed its support for the project and immediately stated that, subject to verification that the proposal was worthwhile to the State, it pepper-corn lease basis) and would negotiate a long-term power contract direct with the State Power Authority. And it

# Inside

FOR National, a leadership question mark and traditional support uncertainties amid real economic problems; for Labour, a deputy leadership race and voter loyalty doubts; for Social Credit, the riddle of how to turn a flashin-the-pan into a growing conflagration. Colin James predicts a very interesting year — Page 2.

ECONOMIC activity did not stop during the holldays, rather news about the economy made way for news on UFOs, cricket and other Christmas New Year preoccupations. Our Economics Correspondent details both the good news and the bad - Page 7.



Tax rates were seen as a

## Montana moves out of retailing

State Power Contract and it indicated it could be interested in contributing up to 50 per cent of the Weinkellers in the Northern half of the North Island. Nathans and shill sell its 27 retail outlets on L D Nathan, Ballins and Quill Morris Ltd.

The sale price for the 27 Weinkellers will be about 7750,000.

Montana's chief weinkellers in the Northern half of the indicated it could be interested in contributing up to 50 per cent of the Weinkellers in the Northern half of the North Island. Nathans and Ballins (already involved in a joint liquor retailing venture) and Allied Liquor Merchants sidiary.

Already feasibility studies are being carried out on-site, and the corporation says it is not prepared to consider that a region.

Montana's chief executive,
G. Stormont, said the sale signalled a redefinition of Montana's objectives.

"We are wine growers, not sellers. Owning retail outlets put us in competition with our own customers," he said.

Nathans and Ballins will buy

Weinkellers in the Auckiand not prepared to consider that a region.

Christchurch-based Quill New Zealand option even exists.

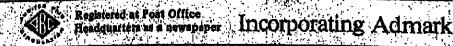
New Zealand was ruled out exists.

New Zealand was ruled out the move by Nathans and establish a Pacific region management office to act for distribution system—one that the corporation.

It was initially considered will cut landling and transport.

It was initially considered that a not prepared to consider that a not prepa

New Zealand's national weekly of business & affairs



industry.''

is correct.

force New Zealand industry to the wall, in the OECD's opinion: "New Zealand in-

dustry would still be sheltered by a tariff which has recently been revised so as to be capable, in itself, of providing

protection for the existing structure of New Zealand

Only the future can tell

whether Muldoon's view of the

economy or the OECD's view

The OECD's view is cer-

tainly the better argued of the

two. And if the OECD's war-

nings about New Zealand's

balance-of-payments pro-

blems are not heeded, it may

be necessary to introduce

more drastic measures in the

future to bring the economy

On the other hand, maybe we

can be reassured by Muldoon's

pointing out that the OECD

# Why 1979 shapes up as an interesting year

TOWARDS the end of last year a high party official — it does not matter of which party prophesied to me a very interesting year ahead. I agree. Take the Labour Party first.

The leader and deputy leader are required by party rules to put their jobs on the line early

Bill Rowling is safe (for the inoment, anyway). But there is a general, though not unanimous, feeling in the caucus that Bob Tizard will be

Nine months ago some Auckland MPs came close to mounting a coup in David convinced they would get a blg majority to dump Tizard, but pulled back when they could not get agreement on Lange.

campaign for the job.

Lange starts a favourite. He deputy leadership status as the way the only Labour MP har year goes on. That gives him Rowling to be chosen as the person most preferred as ambitious Mike Moore (who

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2 boy e damet. The Series III.

per cent of the 1000 respondents to the post-election survey on December 2 by the Heylen Research Centre for the Auckland Star, TV One and National Business Review. He scored 7 per cent, second highest — behind Brian Talboys — of the non-leaders. He showed also that he can bridge the gap between his own middle class professional background and Labour's working class voters. But Lange has his doubters

— both as to staying power and as to the degree of his commitment to the party cause. Others, therefore, claim attention as rivals.

Not to be overlooked is Russell Marshall, the uncharacteristically (for the Labour Party) tough chief whip who, on the formulation That experience has ensured of tactics both inside and that this year will be a long outside the House, is likely to acquire a sort of do facto



**POLITICS** 

three years absence) and the loud Richard Prebble. Time has slipped away from

Arthur Faulkner, who now looks bound for obscurity (and retirement?) with his overdue departure from the presidency in May, which in itself poses a formidable question for the

party activists are coming to believe that the national office must be upgraded to match in will dictate that a leadership officiency and tactical skill the change, if there is to be one, Chapman-Leay team at the must occur some time in 1980

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National Party, though the names being tossed around so far give little hope of that being achieved.

If Labour is to hold together the largely anti-Muldoon membership it built up from 1976 to 1978, it will need inspiring and inspired top executives who are prepared to dedicate themselves to the organisation, however much less glamorous that role may appear than the parliamentary benches. The lesson is to be learnt

has ground to make up for his from George Chapman, who must be counted among the half-dozen most influential political men in the country. Indeed, it is Chapman perhaps in tandem with Barrie Leay — to whom, in the current absence of cohesive caucus strength, is likely to fall the awesome responsibility of deciding whether Robert Muldoon should lead

election recedes into the the party in 1981. distance, that Muldoon was The lessons of 1957 and 1972 only the tip of an iceberg of resentment at the party due orimarily to the economic lifficulties (Chapman has

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time for a given number of

other words, melt the iceberg and the anti-Muldoonism will Two factors may cloud this cosy scenario, however. The position party is or become economic miracle, as some economists expect, may come apart altogether this year as internal deficit works through and corrective measures have

already floated this line). In

the party may gradually

convince itself, as the 1978

end of this year.

If this comes to pass, there is not going to be much left of the Finance Minister's economic

And if he continues petulant, writing letters to newspapers and cancelling press con-ferences, and keeps on periodically thumping unfortunate people who get in his way, the party at large may make Chapman's decision for

Whatever claims may be made for the "broad spectrum" the party's membership is supposed to encompass, it is the middle class which provides its driving force, its political ethos and its work-

Broadly speaking, these people would fit themselves into the professional, directorial and managerial occupational categories (plus farming in the countryside). People who chose these categories in response to the Heylen survey formed a

considerably smaller proportion of those attracted to National in 1978 from elsewhere (Heylen's so-called "new National" voters) than among those who voted National both in 1975 and 1978 (so-called "loyal National"

By contrast those categories formed a considerably larger voters than they did of "loyal Labour'' supporters, suggesting that Labour may have gained at National's expense in what should be National's territory.

The converse was true in 1975, when National made inroads into Labour's territory, the manual worker categories (skilled craftsman to labourer). Some of the Heylen data suggest that those gains evaporated in 1978, but nevertheless the proportion those two categories formed of "new National" voters in Heylen's 1978 sample was higher than the proportion of

"loyal National" voters. In Labour's case, the manual worker categories formed the same percentage of "new" voters as "loyal" voters. This suggests Labour may still be vulnerable in those categories — in 1978's



RUSSELL MARSHALL . . . inside running

case, to Social Credit, while and that a decision as to whether it must be done will converted as many of the have to be all but taken by the manual worker Heylen surve respondents as Labour and The easy decisions are seems, substantially incress always the most appealing and its share of that vote.

The Heylen data need mus more analysis before fin conclusions can be drawn from them. In the meantime, the raise a tantalising poser for Social Credit.

Studies of Canadian federa and provincial elections by Professor Maurice Pinard, McGill University indicate that third parties succeed when one major party : dominant and the major of weak, in a period of "strain" Social Credit has never

succeeded in Pinard's terms t New Zealand — never having got more than 20 per cent of the vote. And, though National he at times (1966 and 1978, fo example) pre-election look like a "natural party government", Labour never been electorally weak i the Pinard sense of getting les

than one-third of the votes. But all three peaks of Socia Credit support — in 1954 afte the 1951 waterfront strike, b 1968 when Norman Kirk wa newly leader of a decrep party, and in 1978 whe weak beside National — hav come at times when Labour, i Opposition, has shown signs weakness amid economi uncertainty. (In 1975, thoug Labour looked weak, the the Opposition party, Nationa was strong, so, in Pinard terms, naturally collected th

anti-Government swing.) The Social Credit upswin certain louic to it. Indeed, has Labour scored worse in 197 than its 39 per cent or had i been rocked by scandals of internal disintegration, Bruce Beetham might have logically hoped for the 20 per cent-plu breakthrough.

Logic in the Pinard sens
would also dictate that Labour were to win in 1981, or to appear strong leven though perhaps in reality weak) Social Credit support would wane — though if Labour were to lose in 1981 and look weak li

again. Social Credit needs transparently weak Labo Party. Otherwise it is going thave to be extraordinarily imaginative and inventive keep the dissident pot on the

For National, a leaders question-mark and tradition support uncertainties and real economic problems; Labour, a deputy leader race and voter loyalty doubt for Social Credit, the ridde how to turn a flash-in-thep into a widespread and grow conflagration: a very teresting year.

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harcourts

Maurice Pinard: The rise a third party (Prentice Half Looking to the long term, said Brian Clark of the bank's

Devaluation: PM avoided substantive discussion devaluation issue by taking a sceptical view of those observers who forecast a rapid deterioration in our balance of payments from the middle of

The OECD is among the more pessimistic of those with published forecasts, expecting a marked rise in the current account deficit to around \$1200 million in 1979, an increase from five per cent of GDP in 1978 to 61/4 per cent in 1979.

But Muldoon stubbornly continues to put off the day of reckoning. He said, "For my part, I want to see more work done before I am prepared to accept such a forecast of a And in fact he feels economic

policy in last year's Budget has been so successful that "our problems going into next year are not great".

The OECD, in contrast, said problems of the country's that "No single policy or set of external imbalance, the OECD policies will quickly solve the problem of large external

think there will be a rapid deterioration in the balance-ofpayments position is the fact by quoting recent statistics stream. He expects that the showing an improvement in existence of Maui will reduce our OET current account deficit by \$100 million in the next year

> But. Muldoon seems to be worried only about the way the economy looks on the surface. Even if the balance-ofpayments position does improve temporarily because of Maui, the structure of the New Zealand economy is such that

This would eliminate the

present written slip and em-bossing machine, and with it

the widespread criticism that

a Visa card transaction is no

quicker than writing a cheque.

terminals are probably too

expensive to interest any but

he largest retailers. This part

of the plan is not seen as

coming lo fruition until about

1985, said Clark, "but the bank

is trying to position for it".

The magnetic stripe encoding difficulties had con-

tributed to a delay in im-

plementing the tellers ter-

minal stage of the develop-

ment, Clark acknowledged

Originally, the bank had in-tended to make the first teller

terminals operational in

the machine which embosses

the customer's name on the

variety of factors, including

dirt on the cards, poor "laying

down" of the stripe with small

holes in the magnetic material

and "technical problems with

the machinery".

The stripes are encoded by

February.

At around the \$600 mark, the

## Visa card to be computerised

by Stephen Bell

THE Bank of New Zealand has begun gearing up for electronic funds transfer on the basis of the Visa card. The first few computer

Correspondent

Organisation

Economic Co-operation and

Development's report on the

New Zealand economy last

week presented a view so

the Prime Minister a few days

earlier that it looked like they were talking about different

since 1974 a series of un-

sustainably large balance-of-payments deficits has shifted

the main emphasis of policy towards the problem of how to

restore external balance to

provide the conditions under

which stable growth can be

restored. New Zealand's ad-

larger than for any other OECD country — and it could

lustment problem may well be

To remedy some of the

suggested that an exchange rate devaluation has much to

recommend it as a longer-term

But in his "state of the

nation' address last week Prime Minister Rob Muldoon,

our external position, gave the

misleading impression that New Zealand's long term

balance-of-payment problem is less serious than it is. In the

last two months for which

there are figures for the

overseas exchange

current account deficit has

And Muldoon avoided a

lifferent from that given by

terminals designed to read the card's magnelic stripe code are already under test in the bank's Wellington head office. But development has been delayed by troubles in encoding the stripe with the customer's account number. About 60 per cent of the initial batch of Visa cards went out without a code in the magnetic stripe, and will not be usable in the terminals.

When the system is first opened to public use towards the middle of this year, terminal operation will be under the control of the bank teller, who will insert the card in a terminal on the bank's side of the counter.

balance recorded on the Databank bureau's files will be checked for authorisation of a withdrawal. The amount deposited or withdrawn will be entered on the terminal and the balance record immediately updated.

In the near future, the bank envisages similar ter-minals on the customer's side American company Jacquard, has had to be slowed down. The of the counter, or even on the outside wall of the bank, allowing the customer to transact business outside bank opening hours. A definite date for such a development has not emerged, and it will clearly ransactions., require some redesign of the

methods department, retailers could be using terminals as part of the Vista card system.

higher prices and reverse the exporters' initial gains. Normally, the ability of importers to pass on price increases is held in line by

THE ECONOMY

problem of large external imbalances in the future.

As the OECD points out: "...It is important to recognise that the existence of Maui gas, substantial as the reserves seem to be, is in the nature of a bonus which should ease the implementation of positive adjustment policies rather than render them unnecessary.'

The OECD's recommendation for devaluation is it does not matter how much not unconditional. It observes

adopting a less expansionary fiscal and monetary stance. According to the OECD, the first condition concerning competition from abroad cannot work effectively until

economy. Here the OECD recommends the removal of quantitative import controls, usually governed by import

"With quantitative controls faster domestic prices rise

that in New Zealand, exporters may initially gain from a devaluation, but import price increases are passed on in

competition from overseas and domestic consumption of imports is held in line by demand management. The second condition can be regulated by Government

ROB MULDOON ... wants to there are structural changes see more work done. made to the New Zealand

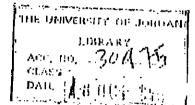
than external prices as mestic producers are never under threat of increased If domestic producers have

more afficient in order to be competitive. And the removal of quan-

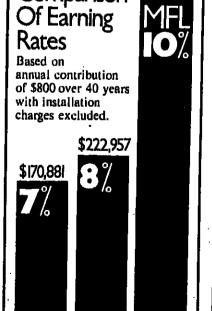
to compete with overseas firms, they might become

back into line.

used figures six months out of date - and that during those six months, the New Zealand conomy has fundamentally



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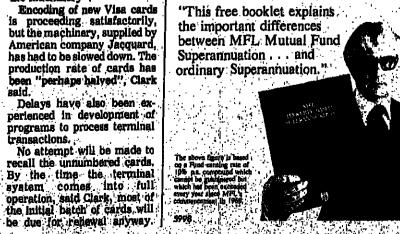
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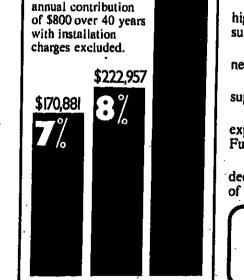
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edal in the pentathlon at the cent in October). The rest did

the gold four years later at who intended to vote National

deeds of the past, couldn't we at least be bored by stories about New Zealand athletic thinking he would reach the Cabinet ranging between 28 per cent and 43 per cent.

### **EDITORIAL**

"GIVEN the potential for misuse of the import licensing system, its administration is remarkably free of corruption instances of attempts to apply improper pressure to departmental officers are rare," the Chief Ombudaman said in his report into the granting of import licences to former Thupo MP Roy I.a Varis. "There is no such evidence that any such efforts have succeeded."

But then the report acknowledged that these comments might have to be qualified. After the Chief Ombudsman had completed his inquiry and prepared his report, the department had drawn his attention to apparent irregularities unrelated to La Varis' company. Thus there were signs that some import licences "may have been issued or transferred without proper authority".

Trade and Industry Department Investigations since then have uncovered a situation considered too serious to be dealt with by internal discipline. Now it is in the hands of the police.

All this gave rise last week to the disclosure by the Sunday Times that the police were investigating "large-scale corruption" within the department. The extent of this "corruption" remains to be seen (a police official has said "it does not involve more than one person"), but the CIB inquiries reportedly are expected to take at least another month, and the alleged corruption is undoubtedly concerned with import

Essentially, the Ombudsman found that, in the La Varis case, departmental officers did not observe normal routhes and made "a serious error of judgment". The police investigations which are now being pursued may result in a more serious outcome -- the criminal prosecution of a civil servent (or former civil servant). If so, nobody should take my amug satisfaction from the rooting out of one corrupt official. Concern, rather, must be directed at reforming a system of import control which this newspaper has consistently argued is susceptible to abuse, or to the suspicion

Further, the granting of an import licence is the granting of s commercial privilege, and the arbitrary nature of the decision-making process encourages rule of men, not the rule of law, because there are no clear rules on who is and who is not eligible for an import licence. The Chief Ombudsman said officers - specially in head office - were continually required to consider matters for which there might be no precedent and which did not fall within the general guidelines, because of changing circumstances. The guidelines were complex and officers to a large extent were thrust back on their own good judgment on deciding how to

Later last week more fundamental aspects of import licensing were questioned. The OECD recommended devaluation of the New Zealand dollar, but said devaluation alone would not be enough; among other proposals, it argued for the abolition of import licensing to constrain domestic prices, and so keep them more in line with world prices.

Thus the removal of "quantitative import controls" was called for to expose New Zealand manufacturers to competition from the outside - although "New Zealand industry would still be sheltered by a tariff which has recently been revised so as to be capable, in itself, of providing an effective instrument of protection for the existing structure of New Zoaland Industry".

irrespective of a devaluation, the Government should consider the OECD's advice and look not to reforming the import licensing system, but to determining if we shouldn't

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# Korea: keeping up with the Japanese

Forecasters confidently few years, but it is possible to Korea. see warning signs in Japan -

A Japanese airline pilots' advanced society. By contrast, arrival at Kimpo Airport in wards day and night. Seoul is more relaxed. Though
Government officials will conglomerates that, to a large apologise for its inadequacies.

success of the past few years, with Korea becoming one of the most successful non-oil at Ulsan in the south east part

to Seoul will be surprised at the exported 1200 of its popular dominated by Japan and the

which the economy is moving for 1979, a staggering 100,000.

Editor: Bob Edlin. Editorial: Judy Nalder (Production Editor), Rae Mazengarb, Colin James, Belinda Gillespie.

Advertising Manager: Paul A. C. S. Loh. (P.O. Box 9344, Telephones 736-876, 859-019, Wellington.)

South Korean economy into perspective is to arrive in Scoul immediately after spending a few days in Japan. Seconomic power.

South Korean economy into perspective is to arrive in Scoul immediately after spending a few days in Japan. But in time it may be evertable by the country tries to emulate 1,100,000 tourists in 1978, more than Japan. Next year, the

But in time it may be overtaken by the same social predict that Korea will "out. problems as Japan's, says Spencer Adams of Lon-delegates from PATA the Japan Japan" within the next don's Financial Times in this report from Seoul, Pacific Area Travel

which may eventually be from the wide range of concarried through to Seoul.

Sumer goods in the stores, for export though home. Last year, tourism brought in sumer goods in the stores, for export, though home mainly of Korean origin, and demand is curtailed by higher A Japanese strike — unheard of in the past
— the difficulties before Narita
Airport was finally opened, and continuing wage demands, all reflect the problems of an large of dust, as new office and botals move two larges, and continuing wage demands, all reflect the problems of an large of dust, as new office the problems of an large of dust, as new office the problems of British blocks and hotels move up- Leyland.

A blue-collar worker there receives about 100,000 won conglomerates that, to a large (one pound sterling GNP equivalent to 197 apologise for its inadequacies, it seems more organised than the success of the present Haneda and more able to cope with vast numbers of Japanese development plans, are tourists than Taipei, even their economic prospects. The extent, will be responsible for their economic prospects. The cheap subsidised housing Samsung Group (with turnover scheme, free medical treatexpansion.

President Park Chung Hee's equalling 5 per cent of the re-election for a further six
Country's GNP), Hyundai, shares, 20 days' leave a year, and shares, 20 days' leave a year, and shares and shares. year term was a foregone Lucky. Daewoo and together with public holidays. conclusion, but his economic Sangyong, all quote statistics and no union to belong to. H K Paik, head of public relations at Ulsan, must have the ideal

at Ulsan in the south east part of the country gives some indication of this industrial might. Fifteen years ago, it years from one of subsistence agriculture to a major industrial force, has provided a buffer ngainst major political opposition and the stronger civil rights movement.

at Ulsan in the south east part of the country gives some indication of this industrial industrial might. Fifteen years ago, it was merely a small fishing port with 5000 inhabitants. Now, it has 88 major factories and a population of 300,000. There, among other projects, Ryundai produces 70 per cent Hyundat produces 70 per cent about 100,000 won, 150 grams of Last year proved no ex- of the country's automobiles coffee is expensive at 3300 won, hit Korean exports more than could also ception; Korea exported \$10 and buses and has the largest billion-worth of goods, and its shipyard in the world, which retains a full order book and is in real terms by 10.3 per cent.

Communication of the country's automobiles and subsess and has the largest shipyard in the world, which retains a full order book and is profitable.

Communication of the country's automobiles and a not spectacular cotton dress costs 25,000 won. But through President Park's New income per head improves income per head improves in the country's automobiles and buses and has the largest shipyard in the world, which retains a full order book and is profitable.

comporatively high standards "Pony" (amily saloons in 1976, he finds, apart from poor and 10,000 last year to some 30 street lighting and potholes in countries in the Middle East street lighting and potholes in countries in the Middle East, the roads.

countries in the Middle East, South America and Africa

The Hyundai motor works is something of a showpiece—it received 4000 visitors less variation.

Community Project, there is year by year, the Russell Beautiful Project, there is now less variation between the Japanese, will become rural and city incomes. show growth of around 12 per cent.

A foreigner on his first visit to Seoul will be surprised at the content of 1978 — but its results speak for Seoul will be surprised at the company exported 1200 of its popular content of 1978 — but its results speak for its content over the country's trading image. For years, south Korea's trade has been country's.

country will play host to 2000 delegates from PATA (the

Association), and is feverishly

building hotels and other

Lust year, tourism brought in

change to fuel the economy.

A recent report, The long

Development of Korea 1977.

1991 forecasts that by 1991 the

Demilitarised Zone and look

out to the Bridge of No Return

to travel the mere 35 mile

from Seoul to the border, to

aircraft three minutes to mak

the same journey, or to read

the air raid regulations in the

the roads.

South America and Africa.

He will feel the speed with This year, the target is 25,000; which the economy is moving for 1979. a staggaring 100 000; mination, the forecasters may There is a real desire for be proved right.

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MIRACLE man Muldoon's loan, or even in the more likely wizardry in dealing with the event of its merely making country's economy might well lead to the popular belief our Prime Minister has been country and the New Zealand dollar. blessed with divine powers. But a statement by the Right Honourable Rob last week lends credence to our suspicion that at least some of his

Answering Labour leader won by Berryman for two of a Bill Rowling's criticisms of the Government's borrowing report on the unauthorised use stratagems, Muldoon's counter-thrust included these spellbinding words:

"It is good economic sense to borrow near the peak of a strong currency, as these currencies usually have relatively low interest rates.

"Then, even in the unlikely event of the Swiss franc doubling against the New Zealand dollar over the life of New Zealand's latest loan, for example, the arranged interest rate of 3.5 per cent would become an effective rate of 7 per cent - a rate second place in the CBA Bank which is still superior to those arranged by the last Labour award for economic jour-

No doubt many people were satisfied that these words amounted to a succinctly convincing put-down for Wes THE Railways Department Willie Rowling and an ef- has been damaging its fective justification of the revenue-earning capacity as Government's borrowing well as the goods it carries.

But hold on a minute. took one of our staff to the back Repaying borrowed money of his shop the other day to isn't just a matter of looking show the condition in which

after the interest rates, much of a consignment of There's the small matter of the goods had arrived. In a word, capital repayment too - and it the condition was smashed. won't be a small matter in the And it wasn't the first time. unlikely event of the Swiss the businessman lamented. franc doubling against the Maybe it's because the goods New Zealand dollar over the brings in are of the alcoholic life of New Zealand's latest variety...

investigative journalism was

series of articles. One was a

of trust funds by a solicitor

vestment company.

who was subsequently struck off; the other an article on the

## Opposition to futures contract

Melbourne Correspondent

THERE has been strong reaction in Australian financial circles to the recent nnouncement by the Chicago Mercantile Exchange of the proposed formation of a utures contract in Australian

Members of the Sydney Futures Exchange are known to be antagonistic towards the proposal, and its currency consultative committee is reported to have made official inquiries of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, seeking

The current position of the Australian Federal Government is that circumstances do either the Futures Exchange or local trading banks.

Bank offers exporters and change. against currency risks in that despite this publicly trading involving the announced policy, some local Australian dollar and other companies are in fact making currencies. For the year 1977- use of foreign currency 78, it made a profit of \$A52.6 markets with the tacit apmillion. This is a most atypical proval of the Reserve Bank for result, however. The Reserve approved transactions. Bank would normally make a When questioned, an official big loss on this type of in-surance. Generally, this declined to comment. unusual result has been at-tributed to freak conditions in

foreign exchange markets, and the fact that Australian ousinessmen are frequently ignorant of the workings of the Australian dollar in relation to oreign currencies. The major portion of

Australian overseas trade is carried out in American dollars, and the general call for the devaluation of the not prepared many Australian traders for the possibility that away from Chicago.



THE AUSTRALIANS

particulars of the contract, rise against one specific and the reasons for its in- currency, the American

The insurance offered by the Reserve Bank does not cover dividends, and overseas loans, not justify the establishment of an Australian foreign exchange market operated by either the Futures Exchange of such cover if extended by The Australian Reserve the Chicago Mercantile Ex-

porters a limited cover But informed sources sa

Nonetheless, a source within

the Reserve Bank conceded privately that it was watching the development of the proposed Chicago futures contract in Australian dollars closely, and said the announcement by the Chicago exchange must lead to great pressure being brought to bear ment to enact legislation Australian dollar overall had enabling Australian currency markets to draw business



But he's solved the problem y driving all the way to the prize for irrelevancy. Wellington to pick up supplies. It's cheaper and all the goods

Only trouble is that his activities of a nominee in-Judge D.J. Fitzgerald said centred well over 150km from the capital city — and that fact, in this regulation-ridden that Berryman's work was clearly of an investigative nature where energy and skill had been employed pursuing his inquiries, unlike a number country, brings the legality of years old - vintage jourhis enterprise into question. Still, by the time anyone gets of other entries which conround to nabbing him, it could sisted in the main of interviews with people voicing comtransporting will take care of welcome return to the courts Last month, Berryman won

now arrive intact.

Christchurch's sports weekly Seven O'Clock could well take

paper with recent news, the Seven O'clock found a novel business operations are way of giving readers what centred well over 150km from presumably it hoped would be their money's worth.
It published news almost 20

nalism, perhaps. There was some freshness, maybe, in the story of how be that the savings he has Maria Bueno, the one-time achieved by doing his own queen of Wimbledon, made a

> But how many remember -indeed, how many want to remember? — the story of how Sjoukje Dijkstra won a gold

Apparently unable to fill the

National Business Review-

Cabinet will have come as something of a surprise to his were not being given proper consideration back at head home constituency office. Indeed, his thoughts

1960 Olympics, leaving not know. Britain's Mary Rand (who won Even Na

Tokyo) with the silver?

If we must hark back to the

Heylen Research Centre surveys of Wairarapa before the election asked voters what they thought his future would - would he become a Cabinet minister, or remain a backbencher.

The voters were in no doubt. More than half in each survey thought he would remain on the back benches 64 per cent in June, 68 per cent in August and 57 per cent in October).

Only around 30 per cent WE expect an element of trivia medal in skating at the Inns- thought he would make it to the to creep into newspaper bruck Olympics in 1964? Or Cabinet 64 per cent in June, 23 columns over the holidays, but how Irina Press won a gold per cent in August and 36 per

AN enterprising branch office BEN COUCH'S elevation to the man suspected that many of the memos he was writing

Even National voters in 1975

again were not too enthusiastic about his chances — those

memos weren't even being efficiency of the company's internal communications by slipping into a batch of memos one which offered the boss "a pleasant surprise" if he had

were even darker - the

read that far: "Send this note back and will send you from my bank account one crisp dollar . . .

The branch man considered the money well spent when he learned that the boss did read the memos - at least, on this



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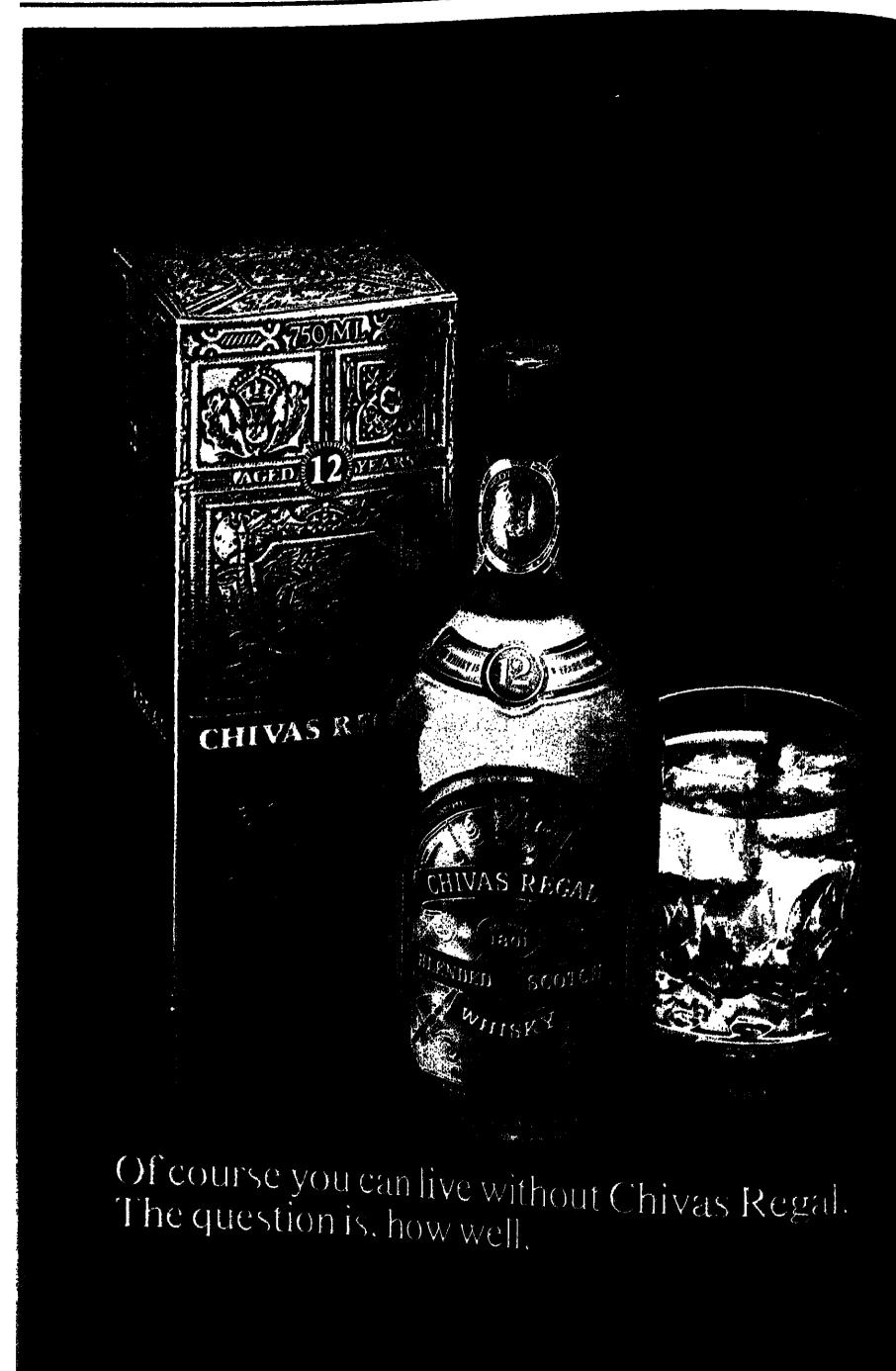
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## Christmas holidays didn't halt economy

Economics

horse racing, climbing accidents and road accidents newspapers and the airtime of Christmas holidays. If there were visitors from outer space travelling in those UFOs, they would have found little information about the economy to report back.

But economic activity did not stop during the holidays. Rather, news about the economy simply went almost

So now that people are returning to work, let's catch up on both the good news and

In December, unemployment rose over the 50,000 mark. The combined total of registered unemployed and people on special work December 15. Of these, 23,144 were registered as unemployed and were not able to The rest, including large umbers of students, were on

Good news for the Govern ment is that it was able to collect \$293.6 million from its special New Zealand Government Savings Stock. The number of applicants for the lucrative stock was 73,700. This should help the Government finance its massive in-

But the bad news is that the

and that the Government has October 1978. According to the

By January 12, the Government had arranged loans of Department, the average \$350 million since the election. working male earns \$154.27 a These included loans totalling week gross, while his working wife gets \$117.17. The national radio and television during the German marks and \$180 average income for both sexes million borrowed in Swiss

> While the interest rates on these loans are about 6 per cent and 31/2 per cent respectively, the repayments could become higher than expected if the mark and franc continue to appreciate against the New Zealand dollar.

Good news for the farming sector is that beef exports to the United States are likely to give New Zealand a \$150 million boost in foreign exchange earnings this year. This increase is likely without a corresponding rise in beef volumes exported because United States beef prices are climbing. The Meat Board expects

beef sales to the United States

Bad news released about the farming sector during the holidays was that farmers' incomes are believed to have fallen 37 per cent last year. Provisional statistics from the Meat and Wool Boards' Economic Service show farmers' net incomes for the period average \$13,500 in 1977-

had to borrow overseas as October Half-Yearly Emconducted by the Labour

> crease at a rapid rate. Comparison of prices for the December quarter 1978 with those for the December quarter 1977 shows that over that year retail prices rose by

> News about New Zealand's balance of trade position continues to be good. The Reserve Bank's latest figures for overseas exchange transactions show a trade surplus of nearly \$584 million for the November 1978 year. This compares with a deficit of \$105 million for the year ended November 1977.

But invisible payments trade gains. For the 12 months result, the OET current ac- brokers would have compelled count deficit was \$414 million.

those still paying for their Christmas holidays. The minimum reserve assets criticised underwriters whose required to hold in January to incur large debts. 78, compared with an average has been fixed at 43 per cent of with 51 per cent in December. debt was owed to a State in-Wage earners may be This should make your bank surance office which is in-

substantially reduce these ended November 1978, the deficit on invisible transactions was \$998 million. As a investment open to insurance

which the trading banks are credit policies allowed brokers net income of \$21,371 in the demand deposits compared significant that the largest

internal deficit cannot be entirely financed through the private sector in New Zealand

wage earners may be instead to some extent from sulated to some extent from your overdraft than it was last month.

# Call for Broker collapse protection

Melbourne Correspondent

THE Corporation of Insurance Brokers of Australia has launched a fresh attack on the Australian Government for its continued failure to protect the public against the collapse of insurance brokers.

The CIBA's national president, Frank Laird, said successive Australian Governments bore a major losses sustained by the Melbourne broking company, Cyril Stanley Pty Ltd, which early in December went into liquidation owing creditors an estimated \$A1.09 million.

Laird claimed that the ap-pointment of liquidators to the company would have been most unlikely had the CIBA's calls for broker regulation

been heeded.

The CIBA has been urging legislative control of brokers

Laird said that repeated warnings by the CIBA and other broker organisations had

He said: "Regular and thorough financial auditing would have prevented the accumulation of large deficits. and restrictions on the types of temporarily surplus funds to Finally, some good news for be invested in approved

commercial discipline.

Cyril Stanley acted as agent for the State Government Insurance Office of Victoria. and is reported to owe it almost \$A500,000.

A spokesman for the State Government Insurance Office confirmed that it was owed "a substantial sum of money", but declined to comment further. Government sources say that the company failed to meet a number of scheduled quarterly payments on policies with the State Government insurance Office, and had placed itself in voluntary

The Tasmanian and South Australian State Government Insurance Offices are also reported to be among major creditors of the company.

In addition a list of these

creditors prepared by the liquidators reveals that many of the country's leading private insurers are owed considerable sums.

The company's failure has focused attention on the question of what insurance with premiums received from clients before passing them on to the insurance company. This matter is the subject of a special study being undertaken by the Australian

Law Reform Commission. While the CIBA's proposals are seen by some insurance brokers as drastic and unwarranted, the Stanley collapse clearly vindicates the group has lobbled the Australian Government for legislative control of insurance



jet lag, it's -time for another trip in search of overseas

Shaw business: Hollywood,

Hong Kong-style

Hong Kong's Clearwater Bay there are 46 acres known as Shaw's movie town.

The legendary Run Run Shaw CBE began a chain of theatres in the 1920s with his brother, things didn't get moving until 1959, when the Shaw brothers set up their Hong Kong Hollywood. The company logo was virtually identical to Warner Brothers, and chauffeur-driven starlets were eagerly spotted by the local press. The only thing missing was the unrestrained spending of the horsestrained spending of the bygone big American studios. The Shaw brothers specialise in quickles — four weeks in the making with budgets so low they almost have to get the film processed at the chemists.

They make around 40 shows around so-called Kung Fu — as unrecognisable to the purists as the chow mein at the Te Puke tearooms. The action's the thing — in fact the stars don't usually bother to talk during the filming. Someone else dubs in the voice later.
The Shaws have also dabbled in "sex comedies", and Whether the arts are martial or marital, they've managed to make an impact on the international film market by keeping a close watch on national tastes. One cinematic masterpiece which left homeas "The Sexy Killer", during tils world circuit became "The

Drug Connection", and later "Death Lady" If you've got the action, what's in a name?



SHAW STUDIO: entrance to the 46-acre complex

time acting school, where Cushing was there a year or action — and even little acting two ago to make "Seven - are studied.

there, just for kicks. more fit. Like a YMCA with

real-life punchbags. perhaps believing only in State-operated violence, have chopped some of the best chops out of many Shaw spec-tacles, or even banned them or even banned them

altogether. But, the studios have managed to please them with a series about a mindless mandarin called Mr Bumpkin, who comes to their own marvellous modern world

Golden Vampires", and there The late Bruce Lee went are perpetual rumours that here, just for kicks. Steve McQueen or Paul Production chief Chua Lam Newman may be on their way admits that excessive violence soon. The studios boast 400 can have a socially harmful self-contained staff apartnevertheless claims that his 1500 and an air-conditioned films have inspired people to build their bodies and become wardrobe unit with precious garments from all dynasties garments from all dynasties—bought for a song from the refugees. Even the professional temperament is there. The day I was visiting, a

No-one knows for certain whether the studios are a central interest, or merely a sideline for Run Run Shaw, who is reputed to be one of the world's 10 richest men. After all, he's no more a movie mogul than an hoteller, financier, banker, insurance Drug Connection", and later from the People's Republic of operator; amusement park from the People's Republic of Operator in the People's Republic of Operator in the People's Republic of Operator in the People's Republic of Operato

director had thumped a member of the camera crew.

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# To grow or not to grow: is that the question? FM band cash in RT makers' coffers

IN 1899, Peter Propotkin published a series of articles in wide gap between those book form, entitled Fields, environmentalists completely advantages of small industry refuse to face simple facts, and communal farm

It was more than 50 years later that Dr Ed Schumacher trublished Small is Beautiful. In 1972, the Club of Rome issued Limits to Growth, the first of three books which embodies, in a more sophisticated form the world is rapidly running out of philosophy of Thomas Malthus whose essay on population first appeared in 1798.

Not so long ago, the chairman of the Commission for the Future there in New Zealand: issued a warning about the likely effects of electronic automation on

employment. Propotkin, an aristocratic refugee from Tsarist Russia, who lived mainly in Britain, was an anarchist, tone of those who dislikes governments, all governments, and sometimes expresses that dislike by throwing or planting bombs). Propotkin was not the bombthrowing type of anarchist. He was a keen student of economies and politics, who became critical of prevailing economic theories such as the International division of labour under which British low-cost. high-quality manufactures were exchanged for low-cost foodstuffs and raw materials mainly from America and what became the British

He abhorred the conditions in the factories and mines, and deplored the decline of British farming. Almost the main theme of Fields, Factories and Workshops was that Britain could become self-sufficient in food, in which case the dark that in some arcane fashion satanic mills would no longer be needed; nor would large citles growing ever larger and more soul-less and more difficult to manage. He also stressed that the New World countries would develop their own industries to meet their requirements of manufactured goods.

Propotkin does not specifically name pollution as a drawback to economic growth. The motorcar scarcely existed, but there were tens of thousands of horses in cities, and the main source of heating and power was the burning of coal so that pre World War I cities were more polluted than they are

Dr Schumacher, who, somewhat ironically, was economist to the British Coal Board, was one of the first to express doubts about expanding economies and targe-scale industry, particularly centralisation of industry in large, evergrowing cities. He had doubts about the economies-of-scale argument, although it is of interest, in retrospect, to note that countries such as Western Germany which adopted American industrial techniques are the ones with highest rates of economic growth and, in consequence, better welfare systems and with more resources available for cultural development.

#### The environment

many years ago. But the use of those limited resources environmental lobby has gains validity.

many new faces, and It would, of course, involve environmentalists cover a some sort of World. broad spectrum both in the Government, which would also number of facets of the have to take steps to curb rates

There is, for example, a opposed to growth in almost any form who consistently and the many sincere people who realise that growth is necessary but hope that it can and, being composed of has assessed what is resources are adequate.

be achieved with a minimum ordinary mortals, would be no physically possible in the light. We now have a situation of departs to the control of th of damage to what they see as the natural environment Others do not have any philosophical objection to the good life but consider that the resources and that the use of remaining resources must be drastically reduced. Others are more concerned

with what they see as the problem of too large a share of the world's resources being used by a relatively small proportion of the global population in the few richer countries, and they want the rich to give more to the poorer

#### Club of Rome

This is where the Club of Rome came in. Its first work was Limks to Growth. This was based on results from a computer model constructed a group in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and presented a disturbing picture of a world running out of resources at a rapid rate. Now pretty much discredited, the book had considerable impact at the time. Its general themo, if not the detail, is built into the conscious and subconscious of more extreme environmentalists. It was the

sort of message many had been waiting for. The fact that a computer had been used impressed many who seemed to have the idea the computer had done the job

The Club of Rome has produced two more books, Mankind at the Turning Point, which develops further the theme of Limits to Growth, and Reconstructing the International Order, which Growth "over-dramatised the situation", a euphemism for a work which attempted to produce firm, even dogmatic, conclusions from stender

Restructuring the In-ternational Order is concerned more with ways of aiding the development of Third World countries, but unfortunately lays almost total stress on the developed world sharing its wealth with the poorer countries. Such a policy has strong emotional appeal and is predictable from a body such as the World Council of Churches, or the now almost totally politically motivated to supplies of energy, raw United Nations General Assembly. The transfer of a significant proportion of the present population.

both projects is that in respect campaigns of order control, otherwise any sid given, while it may slightly alleviate present hardships, will result development is technically in virtually insoluble problems wealth of the developed world

to Third World countries would be difficult to carry out in practical terms, but the Introduction: "The scenario benefit to developing countries would be limited and brief, and in the longer term, would undercut their real chances of Everyone may not agree, but the point is that such

arguments lose sight of the real issue - what is the true It is not easy to pinpoint a position regarding world time when environmental resources? Clearly, if vital considerations assume major resources such as energy and significance in policy food potential are determination. Certainly, the circumscribed by sheer smoke pollution problem in physical shortage, then the London was tackled and solved argument for more equitable

problem they attempt to deal of population increase. Such a

feeling displayed.

a wide range of sanctions, supported if necessary by force. But such a body would look 200 years ahead, but the force world where population has seriously outrup physical not work. Most of its resources institute was not forecasting. seriously outrun physical would be absorbed in putting It has assessed the physical down "rebellions" and dealing scope of world resources and, with appeals and protests, taking account of problems,





POPULATION...flattening out of growth assumed

#### Other initiatives

Fortunately, it will not be necessary to undertake such a foolhardy experiment. The Population problem world is not going to be short of physical resources. Limits to Growth, in spite of its faults, did inspire initiatives by other research institutes. Two of studies, but in much greater objectivity. One of these is the Hudson Institute under Dr

Edison Electric Institute. This latter, as the name implies, is more concerned with energy (which was, in any case, the basic consideration in Limits to Growth) but in its study Economic Growth in the Future, goes well beyond the

work are published in a simply written, readable book, The detailed and technical than the Edison report, which presents a fair summary of both proand anti-growth arguments.

The essence of the Hudson report can be gauged from the first few lines of the presented, elaborated and tested in this book can be summarised with the general statement that 200 years ago almost everywhere human beings were comparatively few, poor, and at the mercy of the forces of nature, and 200 years from now we expect, almost everywhere they will be numerous, rich and in control of the forces of

The study assumes a flattening out of world population growth (growth rates are beginning to drop) at 15,000 million (about four times the present level) and assesses that this level of population could have per-head incomes of \$20,000 (US at 1975 prices), but stresses that these figures

competent, objective, or even technology will increase and corruptible, than are develop. The Edison report governments of individual looks at the position as it is countries. does another Hudson report) but clearly this is far too short

While the Hudson report emphasises that population figure of 15,000 million is flexible, and could availability of resources, these have undertaken similar range from 10,000 million to 25,000 million, even the higher depth and with much greater figure represents a marked reduction in the rate of population growth of the past Hermann Kahn; another is the few decades; a doubling about every 30 to 35 years, which would mean the world population going from the present 4000 million to 25,000 million within the lifetime of a system;

baby born today. of population increase. particularly in developing energy question. countries, is likely to present a this can be achieved most. The results of the Hudson more formidable obstacle to effectively, and most ensuring a happier future for humankind than the technical Next 200 Years. It is less problems of nuclear fusion or and directing what should be developing techniques for produced, how much, and should refuse aid to those availability of resources But the message which developing countries which do

extracting minerals from the sea. Developed countries at a future date. Can one picture, for example, the population of India going from its present 600 million to 2400 million (three-fifths of the world's present population) in less than 50 years?

In the light of public feeling about environmental problems, however IIIinformed and emotionally based much of it is, both projects made full allowance for the environmental impact of further development. In fact, the Hudson people assess that population and income levels could be achieved with a greatly improved quality of life.

#### Implications of

optimistic assessments

thinking especially in some religious thinking; The attainment of the orts of growth levels ensiderable effort not only in

In a world where the quantum of wealth is limited, even declining, philosophies which emphasise relogical and humanitarian as real incomes grow; appeal. But in a world with adequate physical resources, emphasis on re-distribution well as being in conflict with human rights

resources demands a different

type of political and economic

system from one where

We now have a situation

1. Resources are adequate to

provide, on the basis of present

knowledge, high living

standards for population of up to 20 or 25 billion;

2. To keep population down

to this apparently high level

will require considerable

effort, both nationally and

nternationally, and some

fairly drastic changes in

likely to be much more complicated than in the past. other; where a two-party system has operated what has been pretty a time span in which to look at much a "have" versus "havethe future of human beings. not" exercise. In future, groupings could become much more complicated and one can imagine something like the

(a) Those who, accepting the maintain that development can be most rapid and most effective by giving industry and enterprise a reasonable share of the fruits of their enterprise and labours. Even though this will result in some inequality of incomes, even the lower ones would be much higher than under any other

baby born today. (b) Those who, accepting the The curbing of present rates availability of resources and the technical capacity for development, consider that equitably, by governments' owning resources and industry

where people should work;
(c) Those who accept the thesis, but do not consider that comes out loud and clear from not undertake vigorous development is in the interests both projects is that in respect campaigns of birth control, of mankind. For example, environment will outweigh the benefits. Opposing them would be those who accept that development is possible without serious net damage to the environment, even though there must be changes, but who consider that economic growth will not make people happier and that we should all be doing our own thing, which would mean that the ideal society would be

predominantly rural with very simple living standards. Few people want this, and few of those who say they do would face up to it in practice; which is just as well as it would be quite impracticable in most

countries. The fourth item of the brief chronology with which I began Acceptance of the Hudson this article referred to a findings (even if less than 100 statement by the chairman of

body would have to be could be lower or higher— implications for just about increased unemployment completely authoritarian, with powers to impose and monitor will be vastly higher than powers to impose and monitor will be vastly higher than thinking— political, mechanisation. What is the economic, social, even connection between this and Only that one of the future use of increased leisure.

In the past, mechanisation

does not seem to have been a of the work force has become absorbed in servicing incent in America. Nevertheless, filling in nonworking time will present difficulties to many people, facilities for training for leisure as well as for work.

Increased leisure may take the form of shorter working hours or earlier retirement or both. difficulties of the future, use of visaged will require con- increased leisure hours or years should not loom too terms of physical and human largely.

The three major areas of

concern seem likely to be: 1. The battleground of "haves" versus "have-nots" both within countries and between nations. It is, though, distribution of wealth have a conflict which will diminish

2. How to curb rates of population growth to stabilise population numbers at levels will hinder development as compatible with available resources and with reasonable standards of physical and Thus, the background to psychological comfort; future political line-ups is sufficient open spaces to be able to get away from each

of environmentalists who, in democratic countries, are beginning to wield power out of proportion to the validity or significance of the causes they argue. This is likely to give regimes considerable advantage over democracies.

#### Implications for

The question of which is right, the growth school or no-growth school, has great mplications for this country We depend on exports, and a large proportion of those exports will find markets only in countries with high, or relatively high, living standards. This is true not only of our traditional products, but even more so of many nontraditional products now being

We cannot foresco, with any economics will grow or at what Council nor the Commission Science recently, Dr E M economist who for years held the Food and Agriculture Organisation, indicated that preliminary findings from the recent work of FAO suggested that we should not have any insuperable difficulties in finding markets.

This would be in line with the Edison Institute's report, and the longer-term projections of Herman Kahn. Let's hope that the Planning Council soon gets stuck in to the preparation of a programme for development which will take advantage of the opportunities and so safeguard our future. At, present, the council seems' rather like Hamlet's native

cast of thought, And per cent, which is more than the Commission for the their currents turn awry. And likely) has considerable Future, regarding likely lose the name of action."

by John Gaines

ALTHOUGH FM broadcasting hasn't begun in New Zealand, already making a profit from

Post Office made a mistake in the late 1940s when land mobile oversess for FM broad-

have tapped a market which

committee to establish the shoestring.

criteria based on world recommendations for the planned introduction of an FM broadcasting service, and in some in the radio trade are particular the frequency planning as this affected other Very High Frequency services. The delay is in the publication of the report.

There are probably tens of services were put into a sec- thousands of FM receivers in tion of the radio spectrum the country, brought in by which had been reserved tourists, but they can listen to only taxis and trucks.

Various groups in New But it now means cash in the Zealand have expressed incoffers of radiotelephone terest in FM. A pirate FM manufacturers who are selling broadcasting station operated new equipment to users. They in 1977 in Auckland until radio inspectors closed it down, and ghetto communities, and the would not have been there, an organisation in Newlands, a suburb of Wellington, has an trum planning. FM broadcasting society. It An FM Advisory Committee built a transmitter, but has

was established under the been unable to get a licence. chairmanship of the Broad- It is easier to set up an FM casting Council of New station than an AM station -Zealand with members from transmitters are smaller, and the BCNZ, Radio New there is no requirement for an Zealand, the New Zealand Post elaborate aerial mast and Office and the Federation of earth mat on some remote site Independent Commercial on the edge of the city. Capital Broadcasters. This committee investment can be low; an FM set up a technical sub- station can be run on a

#### Exchange rates

As at 18th January 1978 \$1 NZ is worth:

Greece Hong Kong India Italy	37,80 5,0036 8,5527 874,39	Sweden Switzerland Western Samoa Selling rates supplied Bank	4.551 1.750 .753 i by C
Denmark France	5.3720 4.4419	Spain Sri Lanka	73.22 15.93
Britain Canada Fiji Japan West Germany USA Austria Belgium China	.5285 1,2547 .8669 206.08 1,9353 1,0541 14.15 30.48 1,6684	Netherlands New Caledonia and Tahiti Norway Pakistan Papua-New Gulnea Portugal Singapore South Africa	2,088 80,75 5,304 10,37 .727 49,00 2,273 .913
Australia	.9256	Malaysia	2.31;

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In the United States, FM was originally tied to the youth and stations there supported community issues far more than AM stations.

THE MEDIA

The introduction of FM to the United States, where it was invented, was not smooth. Depending on the books you read, it is said that it was suppressed by the RCA Company in the 1930s and again in the 1940s to enable the introduction of television, which would provide larger profits. As a result, FM didn't really get going until the 1960s.

FM was largely invented by involved with RCA as an inventor of various circuit broadcast by FM was in July casting territory, but in New devices which it used. He came 1930 from Armstrong's Zenland the band 94 to 108 MHz

up with the process of transmitter using the callsign is used by land mobile ser-modulating the frequency of W2XMN, in Alpine New Jer- vices. radio waves, hence Frequency sey. Modulation, as against the After World War II, there plitude (Amplitude Modula- on to the ultra high frequencies tion). This was in 1923 and its future didn't look when he was working at bright. In the first nine months Columbia University. In 1924, of 1946, only 80,000 FM radio RCA allowed Armstrong to use the Empire State Building for transmission, the top of which was a mast for radio tran-

smissions of many kinds. In those days. RCA was not interested in FM, and in 1935 it asked Armstrong to leave the building, and shortly afterwards announced a \$12 million corporate commitment apartment. A few months to research and develop

In 1936, Armstrong went to unlimited reproduction rights the Federal Communications on patents. Commission asking for spectrum space for FM transmission, and was ruled against. But in 1939, he got channel one of the American do operate — perhaps better, in the opinion of some New TV band allocated to FM transmission. He contracted Zealand radio engineers. Our General Electric to build 25 communications services FM receivers for demon- operating in the land mobile stration purposes. Then such service use AM. Overseas, on companies as Stromberg- similar frequencies, FM is Carlson, Western Electric and usual. Zenith started making them. Roughly 88 to 108 MHz is now considered to be FM broad-Edwin Armstrong, who was Zenith started making them.

compared to 6.5 million new

Armstrong sued RCA in 1948

for using his FM devices in its

television sets - even in New

Zealand TV sound is FM — and

in despair committed suicide

by walking out of the thir-

teenth storey window of his

later. RCA settled with his

widow for \$1 million and

There's nothing magical

about FM as such; AM would

work just as well on the

frequencies where FM stations

land mobile services in 1948 modulating of the am- was an attempt to move FM up and presumably the PO wasn't RCA and Armstrong for the spectrum space around 100 receivers were produced,

So the PO has to shift the land mobile services currently the 94 MHz to 108 MHz band, to

of the spectrum will be done in reaches the end of its economic life — at least that's how the Post Office has planned it, it has said in letters to subscribers over the past few

So when will FM arrive? In June 1978, the Minister of Broadcasting, Hugh Templeton, said that no Government decision on FM broadcasts in New Zealand was expected that year.

"The various considerations of FM broadcasting to this country are still being examined by an FM planning committee which is representative of the various

Don't keep all development risks to

It is well known that product or process development is a risky business. Big money can be at stake for long periods before the product reaches a marketable stage and you see a return on your investment

As a result many manufacturers refuse to commit themselves to developmen programmes. The answer is not to try and go it alone

The Applied Technology Programme, administered by the Development Finance Corporation (DFC), is designed to help out in this area. Risk capital is available for approved projects, thereby sharing the financial

development stages. Return of DFC's investment is simply related to the degree of risk involved.

risk involved during the difficult

DFC realises its return on the investment only when the project begins to generate sales. And the client retains control

throughout.

Don't keep the risks to yourself, share your problem with the DFC, contact your nearest office for details.

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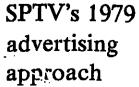
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WHEN YOUR BUSINESS IS GOING PLACES.





SOUTH 'rACIFIC TV will introduce a 1. w six-line rate card this year, which will replace the present three-line

The new rates will become effective on March 5.

SPTV sales and marketing director Maurice Urlich said he had two objectives in introducing the new system: to introduce rates that were cost effective as far as the national advertiser was concerned by giving the media buyer greater range of options; to consolidate and develop SPTV's regional ad selling.

Advertising rates have also gone up. For example, the present 30-second programme national slot costing \$1040 will go up to \$1090 — an increase of 4.6 per cent.

The increased rates were approved by Trade and Industry late last year.

SPTV will increase its coverage from 85 per cent to more than 90 per cent of the country by mid summer, with a new translator which will add close to 60,000 people to SPTV's viewing audience.

SPTV will put the greatest emphasis on selling regional ads. About 35 per cent of its current revenue comes from this source. Urlich said he would like to see the figure increase to 40 per cent.

The new rate structure gives 3 minutes per hour to regional ads over four commercial days and the balance (6 to 7 minutes) to national advertising.

Urlich said he was con-Urlich said he was considering increasing the regional ad time to 4 minutes an hour.

one of four agencies in the city, only two of which had accreditation, including BGH.

From March, Saturdays will be reserved for network ad-

have been good in Auckland, the channel has received poor support from the rest of the

The answer, said Urlich, lay in winning support from the advertising agencies. He said he had no desire to compete vith private enterprise, either advertising sales or production. SIPTV would perform these functions only where private enterprise did not provide the service, he

The bulk of SPTV's Auckland regional advertising came from agencies, he said. SPTV, like other electronic media, has an advantage because, unlike newspapers, it gives the agencies a 20 per cent ommission for placing retail advertising.

Outside Auckland, the agencies do not push SPTV. Urlich said that in Christ-church 50 per cent of SPTV's retail ads are sold through agencies and 50 per cent by SPTV's own salesmen.

In Wellington and Dunedin, virtually nil. So, Urlich said, he would reallocate his sales staff to give greater sales strength to areas outside Auckland — and particularly

SPTV is also establishing a sixth sales region based at Palmerston North. Originally the Palmerston North adertisements will be broadcast 18 part of the Greenbelt aikato, Bay of Plenty, King Country, Hawke's Bay) region. But Urlich said he hoped for a split transmission to create a new regional broadcasting

#### BGH moves north

BRUNTON Gestro Horne Marketing Ltd has moved its



Three of the four directors, Graeme Horne, Colin Gestro and Jim Little, have set up

shop in Symonds Street.

**ADMARK** 

The fourth director, Tom Short, has stayed behind in Hamilton, maintaining a service office there with two The Auckland operation was

previously a service office in Liverpool Street, run by a staff of five. The directors are keeping quiet about what the 18-strong staff they anticipate having in Auckland will be doing Or more precisely, who instance, however, the they'll be doing it for exercise reveals that INL has doing. Or more precisely, who "Basically there's more little understanding of the business in Auckland," said women's market.

He agreed there was already in abundance of agencies in Auckland, but "we are quite sure there is room for us"

Little wouldn't comment on what new business for BGH had been picked up to justify the agency's considerable expansion. But he did sny BGH had doubled its turnover in the last 12 months. "And we weren't starting from a tiny base either," he said.

BGH was established in Hamilton 10 years ago. It was

# while SPTV's retail ad sales thumbs down

WOMEN'S WEAR - INL's attempt to enter the women's market — died after only seven issues. The whole episode leaves unanswered the question as to whether there is scope for another New Zealand

In the last five years Eve. Thursday, NZ Woman, Family Circle and the newstand editions of Apparel have also censed; at least one major project was stillborn; and al that survive on the newsstands are Woman's Weekly, occasional issues of City Girl, and the monthly radicalfominist Broadsheet.

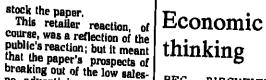
INL's attempt — a formula acknowledged at the end to be wrong — was a 40,000-print weekly tabloid, black except for a spot-colour front, selling

in the North Island only.

The marketing idea behind this was never clear. If it was to tap the boutique and fashion market, a base in Hamilton and features on Marilyn Waring, Alister Taylor, and Raewyn Beetham seemed unlikely to help.

In Australia and the United States, tabloids have enabled publishers to make low-cost breaks into markets — but it is doubtful that they suit the women's field. Marketing to women needs a quality print format — or at least excellent four-colour printing. Women's Wear, though carefully laid out to a magazine-style system, had neither to offer — and thus had no advertisers either.

But it is understood that was not so much the advertising failure which brought the paper's early death, as signs that a cir-culation rise was impossible. The paper depended on selling 25,000 copies per week at \$ cents per copy. Not only did early issues not reach this target; but with each issue a rising number of outlets in-dicated they did not wish to



stock the paper. This retailer reaction,

no advertising cycle were quickly extinguished.

began as a weekly seems to be

wrong. At no stage did

Women's Wear show that it

had anything to say which needed such frequency of publication; while the 50 cent

per copy price meant that

regular purchasing was unlikely. Despite its access to

overseas material, notably

from Women's Wear Dally, the

paper failed to become a

substitute for overseas

magazines, yet did not become

a New Zealand fashion

magazine either. The few New

Zealand fashions which were

companied by any indication

of where they might be bought.

large newspaper group

in New Zealand. In the present

Normally, the sight of a

included were not ac-

The concept of a paper which

REG BIRCHFIELD in Soapbox makes the very error which prevents the political parties from carrying out their repeated promises to give the dollar stable purchasing power. That error is so deeply embedded in the whole thought structure of our culture that it s incorporated into language

That failure to think clearly posed to be the elements of "the quantity of money".

financing an experimental publication would be welcome the energy which generate the current stream of goods and services which are being current real stream of goods produced. The right to take and services. That is part of that stream is given physically impossible. Only by income. The goods and ser-



LETTERS

is expressed in the whole vices which physically concomplex of ideas which stitute that stream are the real assumes that there is a income. Money income gives quantity of money in existence the rights to take from that which is independent from the real stream. The confusion in total of incomes. It is reflected the whole concept structure of in the learned arguments of ideas which assumes that academic economists as to there is some "quantity of just what constitutes MONEY, money' independent of the M1, M2, etc., which are supcause why politicians cannot implement their promises to give the dollar stable pur-Current carning efforts are chasing power. Money incomes cannot give a total of real incomes greater than the

do the impossible. Not only is the whole economic thought structure astray from reality, but those ideas are embodied in monetary, fiscal, financial and accounting practices. World wide inflation and the erosion of the purchasing power of the dollar, franc, mark, yen, etc. is going to get worse and keep on

getting worse for a very long

Politicians cannot keep their promises to fight inflation and educe the shrinkage of the size of money units. The hardships of unemployment. the loss of savings and the general maladjustments of stagilation will persist for a long while. Changing ideas and practices which are incorporated into world culture will be a slow process.

The great need to think again opens tremendous opportunities for those with the imagination, energy and courage to lead. That will require a different breed of politicians than those now governing New Zealand.

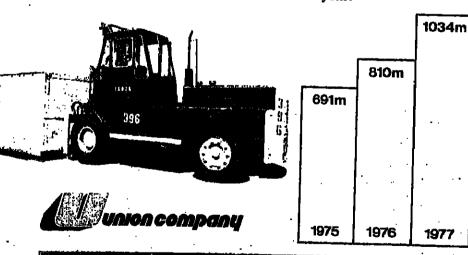
> John R Perkins. Tauranga,

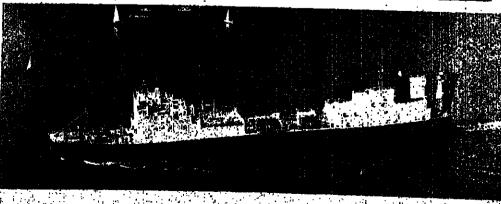


When the figures were all in for the year ending June 1978, trans-Tasman trade was found to be worth a record one billion and fifty nine million dollars.

Of this, Union Company vessels carried just over \$770m. Operating continuously between Australia and New Zealand, Union Company's fleet of modern roll-on, roll-off vessels delivered more than a million tonnes of manufactured goods, raw materials and a wide range of other products safely and swiftly, making a major contribution to total trade.

The big question now is, how much this year?





#### every day one of our ships is in one of your markets. Talk trans-Tasman trade with Union Company.

New Zealand Branches - Auckland 774-730, Tauranga 53-199, Wellington 729-699, Nelson 81-459, Lyttelton 7149, Dunedin 77-201. Adelaide 47-1633, Fremantie 35-1091



QF036

# WINE DRINKERS: which NZ wine co. won the most medals for its table wines in 1978?

Villa Maria. If this surprises you read on

RESEARCH RECENTLY CONDUCTED REVEALED THAT FEW TABLE WINE DRINKERS ARE AWARE THAT VILLA MARIA A CONSISTENT PRODUCER OF TOP QUALITY WINES. THAT'S OUR FAULT FOR NOT LETTING YOU KNOW. WE HOPE TO RECTIFY THAT PROBLEM WITH THESE FACTS

### The surprising facts are:

- Villa Maria won a total of 46 Medals in the two competitions in 1978 - the Easter Show in March and the THC competition in November. These medals were awarded to a total of 35 of our wines (some wines won
- 2. Though we won the most medals for table wines one other company equalled Villa Maria's 46 medals; no one surpassed this total, however.
- 3. One major wine company did not compete in the Easter Show. Even if it had (and even assuming they had done well) the fact remains that Villa Maria wines performed
- Villa Maria's 1978 perfomance is a culmination of an increasing domination of medals over the past three years indicating a consistency of quality. For example, our wines won a total of 37 medals in the two 1977 shows.



## What does this mean to you?

Service for whee durakers who like to experiment but who don't approciate bad surprises. Modal winting writes are a safe betto buy because independent, highly enteral and osac fing experts have assessed thom as attaining a stundard of excellence. You may not always like nodal winning which, but the claim is are you will

to try our wines given our medat winding performance in recoil yell. As New Zeidand Listener shift writer Peter Trickett writer (Newmins) 1978: "Roll of the American State writer (Newmins)." 1978): "But it's not just at quantity that (Volta Marin's owner) l'istonich has been familing, like most of the loading wine makers, he incognism that the New Zouland period is first becoming more discorning in its tastos to the past four years be, which have went an impressive any of nwards, including secol the one salver modula awarded for commercial-quantity wines at this year's Laster Show

This is only one of the highly favorable comments by wine expet throughout New Zodland, but we think we vergiven you enough facts for new. Why not look at the medal winning wines pictured below to see



# Reaping profits from the field of data-logging

degree, in commercial use —

remain competitive and vstems for its production and

Of course, computers are not new to New Zealand; many companies have already established computer-run technology in factories and warehouses. Numerically example, are becoming if not ommon-place, more obvious.

New Zealand relies heavily on imported technology to upgrade and modernise. Millions of dollars a year are spent importing this equipment.

But now a small New Zealand company is attempting to build a base of mowledge and experience in making computer systems

locally.

And, remarkably, only 10 per cent of the value of the equipment being made is imported. The company is Solid

State Equipment Ltd, and operates from the bottom of the Wainuiomata Hill in Wellington's Hutt Valley. The computer systems it is making offer a number of

valuable services researchers in the field of data logging and increasingly, in Solid State was formed in

1971 by two former DSIR boffins" who worked in the Physics and Engineering Laboratory at Gracefield. George Jones was an electronics scientist, and Neil Poletti an electronics

But the roots of the company to back to 1967, when the two men worked ovenings to build avigation lights for harbours. These proved successful mough to launch the full-time

Later products included emergency lighting systems for buildings. "They were," says Jones,

TRANSPORT Minister Colin

up to in the coming weeks

New Zealander travelling

overseas but also the future

levelopment of New Zealand

iffects of the Australian-American cheap fare deal

across the Pacific on Air New

acing both airline and

government officials must still

be the development of a new

fare package to London and

From the traveller's point of

view the cost will be the main

concern, particularly if the

traveller is prepared to sacrifice some degree of travelling ease and flexibility

for a cheaper fare. But for the airline, stop-over

and pick-up rights, routes, traffic potential and

arrangements with other arriers are all important

Possibly the most important ecision to be made will be

whether to opt for a seasonal

fare structure, such as the Australians are to introduce, or whether to stick with an all-

year-round fare and try to tough out the inevitable public criticism.

which will affect not only the

products which allowed us to completely built-up printed microprocessors.

THE major trend in industrial production — and, to a lesser individual case studies of new developments within New Zealand industry. The alm is to illustrate the advances being made by industrial and scientific researchers — be they lone inventor. corporation, research institute or Government department — as vew Zealand's economic structure swings towards increased



And they allowed Jones and insisted on building up its own Poletti to move into the thenprinted circuitry for use in the computer systems. processor — those tiny bits of silicon chip which are the example of New Zealand adaptability and ingenuity, element of

chips are so small that two or three will fit onto a fingernail. Yet, for example, the microprocessors that Jones and

sletti work with contain up to

16,000 transistors. Recalls Jones: "Microprocessors were a very young New Zenland but throughout

the way the electronics in the printed circuit which will dustry must go and we had to control the system using the

The approach was from the that is used overseas to standard electronics ground up. Rather than import manufacture the

and Europe would be the same

than the Australian seasonal

fares once a trans-Tasman

A seasonal fare from

One possibility might be for

than the current excursion

fare of \$1200 on only one route,

while promoting cheap one-way travel through Los

Another option — a bold one

for Air New Zealand and the

Government - might be to do

change to the present European fare structure rests largely on the grounds that the

amount of extra traffic to be generated within New Zealand

does not justify any significant fare reductions on important

say Singapore or Hong Kong,

flight is added to the cost.

Unless the airline can really Zealand end until

Fare deal foremost for Air NZ

McLachlan and Air New pull something out of the bag,

Zealand have some hard an all-year-round excursion

commercial decisions to face fare of about \$1000 to London

slotted are manufactured in New Zealand, as are the protective coverings. The designers have added a

lew touches of their own to nhance the system's per-

For example, they have designed their base model — a duta logging system — with a low power consumption so that it will run on batteries for

a lengthy period.
And they found that improved technology in the componentry — plus some design additions — allows their equipment to be used in conditions not normally associated with sophisticated computer systems. The Solid State systems can be left outside in most weather

use of cassette tapes to record information being gathered by the system. The tape is then removed and run through another system to retrieve the information.

three factors allows their minismall it looks like a lunch-box) to be left on a mountain top for a month recording rainfall data. The cassette tape is then collected and taken away for the information to be retrieved. The batteries and tape are replaced and the equipment left standing for

member recently visited a major computer exhibition in the United States but could find no product with a similar

This field of information logging has been the main area in which the systems have so far been used. But industrial applications are assuming greater importance.

Specific examples being investigated by the company

pany designs its own printed circuits for specific apformation from factory plications and then constructs machines and log the rotation to provide information for company's bonus incentive scheme and to pinpoint areas A mechanical worksho

wants information about wha machines are working on what jobs for how long. The in-formation gained will help the company's job-costing:

 A consultancy is interested in finding out the efficiency o lifts and escalators i buildings. By clipping one of the Solid State computer systems to a lift, the efficiency can the measured: A company wants to

between two stations. By Solid State mini-computer can o decide the best approach Jones is particularly in-

In Pan Am's case the fares tinental the price difference

Air New Zealand is looking at a cut price fare for tour nothing at all. The case for no to the Pacific.

In many ways, it's a classic

except in this case it's dealing

With the most sophisticated

For instance, the boards

upon which the printed circuits

are built are imported. Certain

electronic components, too.

are imported, such as the

But that's the extent of the

imported content. The com-

technology available.

microprocessor itself.

Continental Arlines made its forest fire danger.

Continental Arlines made its forest fire danger.

Yes for entry to Australia and "New Zealand is parcase for entry to Australia and New Zealand is particularly good in the field of it could generate new (tourist) traffic. Airline fares for tour operators will have to come system technology," says down if they are to put together

booking periods.

mes.
But that's not likely to bring much joy to the ordinary person wanting or having to concerned, the situation

Australians have talked to us about Air New Zealand's position in the Australian market, and we have talked to the Americans, and possibly they have talked to the Australians again, a process which should take until late A seasonal fare from The new Pacific fare regime New Zealand, based perhaps under which Qantas sells three.

on a two-season concept, seasonal fares in Australia, cannot be ruled out until Air and the American airlines, Pan Am and Continent two-tier fares will be in terested in moving into a new field — radio links. For example, a data logger

programmed to record temperature, wind speed and direction, humidity and operators to try to snatch a to a radio transmittor which share of the growing tourist could then radio the in-traffic from the United States formation into a central control which could analyse

"This could well be a way of combining two apparently separate technologies." The entire operation nearly



\$100,000 into developing the feels it has the capability to technology, sustained by its

But, with the decline in the economy, demand for the computers are normally built company's "bread and butter'' products dropped.

"We were doing the R & D

Technology Programme of the poration for assistance in time and money-saving. continuing the research programme. Result: an injection of some \$30,000 to help carry the company through the

staff of 11 - has pioneered much of the work in New Zealand with this new no means in a position to tackle the computer giants, Jones be exploited.

help New Zealand industry ease into the computer field. to a specific customer's

requirements and allow a ''do it yourself" approach to cheaply because we are a computerising a production small company. But that line. For instance, a company \$100,000 was still a heavy in- can start off in one particular and then build up its use of the proached the Applied computer systems as it Development Finance Cor- finds the use of the equipment The future, says Jones, is

> "This is the way technology is going - and industry, too. We also have export potential For example, our field data logger could be used in Australia out in the Isolote mineral fields.

And, he believes, the commercial application has yet to

#### At last. Clear concise ideas about the future of N.Z. agriculture.



"... one of the most important research papers ever released on New Zealand agriculture," that's how Harry Broad, editor of Straight Furrow describes The Future for New Zealand Agriculture.

in this significant new publication, lan-McLean, farmer and agricultural economist, explains why production rather than market problems inhibit agricultural exports. He probes the pros and cons of five alternative policy strategies to combat New Zealand's complex, persistent agricultural problems. McLean concludes that the weight of evidence supports one particular strategy , .....

The Future for New Zealand Agriculture, published by Fourth Estate Books on behalf of the N.Z. Planning Council

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# Pressure to prescribe plethora of preventatives

FIFTY years ago, penicillin was discovered, and the whole direction of medicine changed. An editorial in the New Zealand Medical Journal has drawn altention to this event. and the problems brought by "the seemingly endless plethora of useful antibiotics". So much information is needed to make a correct decision, it suggested, "that proper choice may depend ultimately upon another technological triumph, that of miniaturised computer with handling

capabilities". Not until the early 1940s was it confirmed that penicillin had powerful antibiotic properties. Before this was an era of what has been called "therapeutic nihilism", where there was widespread acceptance of the fact of disease and the risk of premature death.

It was a fact of life that people died of tuberculosis, cumonia and meningitis. Tombstones of last century show that parents were resigned to the deaths of one or more children at an early age. In a matter of a few decades, thanks to antibiotics, many lethal infectious diseases have been controlled.

Having discovered one magic bullet, however, the public demanded more. If pneumonia and meningitis why not cancer, heart disease, stroke, and the common cold? Our expectations have risen beyond the capacity of medicine to meet them. Simple technologies like immunisation and antibiotic drugs have not yet been scovered to prevent or cure the degenerative diseases which challenge the large population of middle-aged and elderly A cure for the abiquitous cold is equally

For many of the numer

ailments which take people to their doctors, antibiotics are not an appropriate solution. But such is the pressure on the doctor to prescribe something - and so great the faith of the uninformed in the magic bullet that a visit to the doctor is generally followed by a visit to the pharmacist.

A general practitioner who has worked in the British National Health Service as well as in the New Zealand free enterprise system claims that the pressure to prescribe is greater here. Where someone pays several dollars for each visit, a doctor who doesn't prescribe feels that he has cheated his expectant patient, who as often as not asks outright for an antibiotic. In Britain, where return visits are free, the conscientious doctor can see a patient

several times to check progress; here he could be accused of trying to generate income. Antibiotics, particularly for minor respiratory infections which make up a large proportion of patients' complaints, may stop complications developing, or may be no use at all. But prescribing antibiotics makes the doctor feel better. It's a satisfactory way of terminating the interview with honour, if the drug does no good, it will do no harm either. Prescribing is quicker than a lengthy physical check or a long rambling chat about

symptoms. The hard-pressed (P can shout through more Not only does the consumer of medical services want antiblotics for every minor ailment, says a Wellington GP. He or she is under the illusion that if one doesn't work, another will - though ampicillin and tetracycline,

greater productivity

new management methods

Country."

"It is imperative that we re-orient our work organizations

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tion Service coupon elsewhere in this issue.)

GOOD HEALTHKEEPING

are both broad-spectrum drugs which will "kill just about anything". Children's coughs, upon which antibiotics have little effect, are often treated with two or three drugs. When the cough dies a natural death, a cure is attributed to the most recent drug, which is demanded ngain when the cough recurs, as it so often does.

Another consumer myth is that one has been so drenched with a particular antibiotic. penicillin for example, in one's medical history, that it no longer has any effect. While strains of organisms may be penicillin resistant, an ndividual human being is not. Each new illness is caused by modifying the chemical hospitals in this country an invasion of bacteria with their own characteristics, penicillin-resistance being one

greater the number of one chosen. This means preresistant organisms there will testing to identify the be. This means that in a organism, almost impossible hospital environment there in an ordinary general will be more organisms practice situation, where the resistant to a range of antiblotics than in the outside but "treat blind" while walting community. Resistant for the results. "Treating bacteria may also be created blind" means using a broadwhen antibiotics are used in a spectrum antibiotic, at least non-therapeutic way, until the organism is Livestock kept in a confined identified, thus again space and given feed with increasing the chance of antiblotics in it carry resistant creating more drug-resistant organisms which can be bacteria. transferred to humans.

transfer this characteristic to prescribed in general practice antibiotics in the community, women who have taken which is chiefly due to antibiotics because of a consumer pressure on doctors similar effect on vaginal to prescribe. Drug companies bacteria. More serious is the have responded successfully to risk of deafness which is a side the challenge of resistant effect of streptomycin, a drug structure of antiblotics. The Tetracyclines can cause tooth-

that the danger of treatment-should only be used where they resistant bacteria was known are effective. They shouldn't to the Oxford team working on be prescribed for colds, unless

penicillin back in the thirties, pneumonia is a complication, even before clinical trials had or for gastro-enteritis. Ideally, when they are used, the drug The more antiblotics are with the greatest specificity used, says Dr Markham, the for the complaint should be the doctor may send off a swab, Medicines -- excluding those

Some antibiotics have side \$15,500,000 make up 16 per cent Not only do organisms effects. The broad-spectrum develop resistance — they can ones most commonly species in the wipe out the normal population environment. Markham says of bugs in the gut, and can drugs, penicillins and he feels that there is cause diarrhoen. Thrush is a tetracyclines, at a cost of \$8 considerable over-use of common complaint among million and \$212 million hospitals in this country, that while there is some process is a wasteful one, with staining in children, and properly, as prescribed; overpenicillin-resistance being one possibility.

Professor Markham of the professor Markham of the

The benefits of antibiotics, however, clearly outweigh the small risks involved — if they are prescribed only when according to doctors instructions That is taken in the right dose for the full course, not just until symptoms disappear. Failure io finish a course makes a recurrence of the illness likely. and again increases the risk of developing drug-resistant strains of bacteria.

dispensed in hospitals, for

why — there is a higher repair which no figures are available cost there than for the rest of - cost the State \$98 million the price of the drug, its fee. The broad-spectrum and vans from \$181 to \$358. increasing frequency of respectively, make up most of accidents shown in Chart Two. relatively smaller quantities Michael Trow, the Health Department pharmacist who consumer failure to take drugs

New Zealand.

average repair costs for

private cars, business cars

and trucks.
The figures are the amounts

paid by tariff insurers, and do

not include any claims

paid by the vehicle owners.

For many years, insurers

have charged higher

premiums for vehicles used in

the Auckland and Wellington,

areas and the chart reveals

#### accident costs by John Sloan THE Insurance Council of New Zealand has released statistics relating to the average costs of motor vehicle accidents in Chart One details the

INSURANCE

the business cars on the road will have an accident, the cost of which will be about \$342. The insurance council also

estimated the total costs of motor accidents to the country. For the year ended March 31 1977, the total vehicle repair costs were estimated at The Insurance Council \$73 million. Compounded at an figures indicate that since 1972 annual rate of 15 per cent by average repair costs have 1979-80, the yearly cost will be doubled - private cars from running at approximately \$100 \$178 to \$352, business cars million. These all-up estimates from \$170 to \$342, and trucks are for direct costs to insurers only, without counting Just as disturbing is the uninsured damage, claims excesses and the vast range of "hidden costs" incurred by Between 1972 and 1978, the businesses in loss of use, hir

umbers of accidents to of replacement vehicles and so private cars and trucks has on. These unidentified indirect ncreased by 20 per cent, but costs could equal the direct for the same period accidents costs, so that by 1979-80 motor to business cars increased by accidents could cost the 31 per cent. On average, half country \$200 million.

Chartte Average Renair Costs in 1977

 	Auckland & Wellington Area	Rest of North Is	South Is	N.Z. Average
Privale Cars Business Cars Trucks & Vans	\$ 381 353	\$ 354 345	\$ 319 302	\$ 352 342 358

Chart 2: Number of Accidents per 10,000 Vehicles

į	1977	1976	1972	
Private Cars	2341	2243	1941	
Business Cars	5385	4513	4100	
Trucks and Vans	2647	2352	2206	
Business Cars Trucks and Vans	5385	4513	41	

# patients this way – and, let's computers and the communication gap

by Stephen Bell

NOWHERE in a company's structure, it seems, is there a bigger communications barrier than the one around that mysterious beast the computer and its attendant

which between them make up Complaints from both sides most of the antibiotic market. of the barrier are proverbial. Senior management and user departments accuse DP people Participation ... key to of speaking jargon and of being more concerned with the technicalities of the machine than with the business problems they should be

The DP people retort that management does not appreciate the costs and system for the company. imescales of DP developments; when they use the computer, they expect instant solutions; often, they prefer to pretend that the DP department is not there and stick to

their own manual procedures. As a rule, the grumbles go on separately on either side of the fence, with little profitable discussion of the problem. Last November, the Institute of Management and the NZ Computer Society attempted to promote some exchange of ldeas with a joint seminar.

The event was generally acknowledged to have reaped benefits in a higher standard of should, of course, N.Z. case-studies in important, discussion and considerable agreement on the nature of the management people trying to was a first step to better comwas a first step to better to the munication, but, as one of the to invest in training, he warprincipal speakers admitted to ned, the communications gap NBR afterwards, the next step would inevitably widen.

to appear ignorant in the face of the DP specialist, whether it is the company's own DP manager, or a salesman from computer company.

This drawback could be prepared to admit the gaps in its knowledge, as well as repairing them through readily available educational



COMPUTERS

Finance, provided a lesson in admitting ignorance. He described his experiences in

The computer suppliers had a system, which they described in their own language. "Every time they made a statement, I would say 'I don't understand', and a

translation would come out." Once the barrier had been broken down in this way, the vendor was quite co-operative, said Francis, and between them they planned and developed "the best hire purchase system in New

The education angle was promoted by Ralph Bolton, of Systems Resources. Training problems. In itself, it understand DP, but vice versa.

was difficult to see.

The well known "jargon barrier", it was agreed, was compounded by man compounde They expected the DP person to "pick up" the business with no formal training. No one would think of en-

trusting an accountant with care of a company's financial affairs until he had had several attacked on two fronts. years' practical experience,
Management must be said Bolton, A computer operator was entrusted with essentially the same responsibility "as soon as he's learned to press a few but services.

Jim Francis, general countant would not be exmanager of Challenge pected to design a financial manager to produce in-

system, but there was no hesitation about giving the job to an inexperienced systems

Movement of staff between DP and business functions could, it is often suggested, be another means of diffusing expertise in both disciplines through the whole company. Studies claim to have found, however, that the psychology of DP and business staff differs markedly, discouraging such movement. In particular, it has been said, DP people lack the enthusiasm for social mixing which is an integral part of the business world.

DP people, in common with many specialists, were disinclined to move out of their own field in any case, said Len Fahy, of the Accident Compensation Commission. He had met the same syndrome in other areas. "I know safety advisers whose one aim is to be

a good safety adviser". Accepting that for a long time there will be two separate fields of expertise, the logical strategy is to encourage and formalise co-operation, with joint committees from management and DP department to define and justify the computer systems needed, to work on their development and, an imabandonment of unsuccessful or out-of-date systems.

Inadequate co-operation, it was emphasised, leads to unwanted, badly-designed, inadequate and expensive systems, with delays in Even in trying to promote

co-operation, there exists not poses. only the "jargon barrier" but some deep psychological obstacles. Bolton advanced the idea that a manager resented the stranger from the DP department trying to define approaches and criteria, which had previously been his Information, and ossession, is an important





LEN FAHY ... DP people disinclined to move out of their

formation which he has been withholding until the right

terworking of management way off,

Delegates from both sides of the floor, however, were in no doubt as to the beneficial effects of a rapprochement Computer-aided business planning opens the door to far more efficient planning and operation of a business, particularly in an uncertain

# THE REAL

WHAT THE REVIEWERS ARE SAYIN "The Real Muldoon is much more

rewarding than the Prime Minister's own two dismal attempts at autobiography. It reads particularly well. The style is energetic, witty and trim, and the book is put together well." W. P. Regres, Dominion

> "Zavos is a perceptive observer, a master of the probing phrase, the analytical paragraph." Alkler Browne, Manawatu Evening Stas

The Real Muldoon raises, it's odd that Mr Muldoon now seizes on nits in trying to discredit the whole commentary. Mel Driscoll, Walkato Times

> "... the book ... usefully illuminates several aspects of an exceedingly complex character.' P. I. Scherer, N.Z. Herald

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# Acceleration in motor Royal visitor to New Zealand

A RECENT visitor to New Zealandwas KM Bevins, chief general manager of the British-based Royal Insurance Group. The Royal is one of the largest international insurers, with \$5 billion in assets and a world-wide premium income of \$2.5 billion.

Bevins said his company is Bevins said his company is trading profitably in most areas of the world, but he expressed concern at the inexpressed concern at the indiscriminate competition it is experiencing on an in-

He cited three reasons for the current cut-throat com-• Ignorance of basic in-

quickly move into an apparent in the process. profitable market, slash level and pull out when the inevitable claims occur:

 The international aspirations of many third world countries and Middle East countries which insist on



standing Royal clients being tempted by competitors' insurance being written in cheaper premiums, only to has announced a new joint their countries, or are find the service was equally venture) Bevins said that his aggressively expanding cheap; claims weren't paid, or company had been there a long

• Fringe operators who overseas but buying business surance. Bevins predicted that

current "soft" market will not permanently damage the insurance industry.

K M BEVINS...concern at

discriminate competition. Bevins said he hoped that

He gave instances of long-

The "once bitten twice shy" clients then returned to the Royal or other traditional insurers. Yet the Royal is not afraid of competition "as long as it's healthy and does not jeopardise the clients' in-

an international problem, especially in the United States, insurers had coped better than some sensational publicity had indicated, Bevins said.

The trend for multinationals to establish their own "captive" insurance companies is a fact of life, but much of the business flows back to the traditional market via reinthe major international insurers would expand more into the reinsurance market. especially as capacity

problems are emerging.
When asked about the burgeoning Middle East insurance market (where the New Zealand Insurance Group

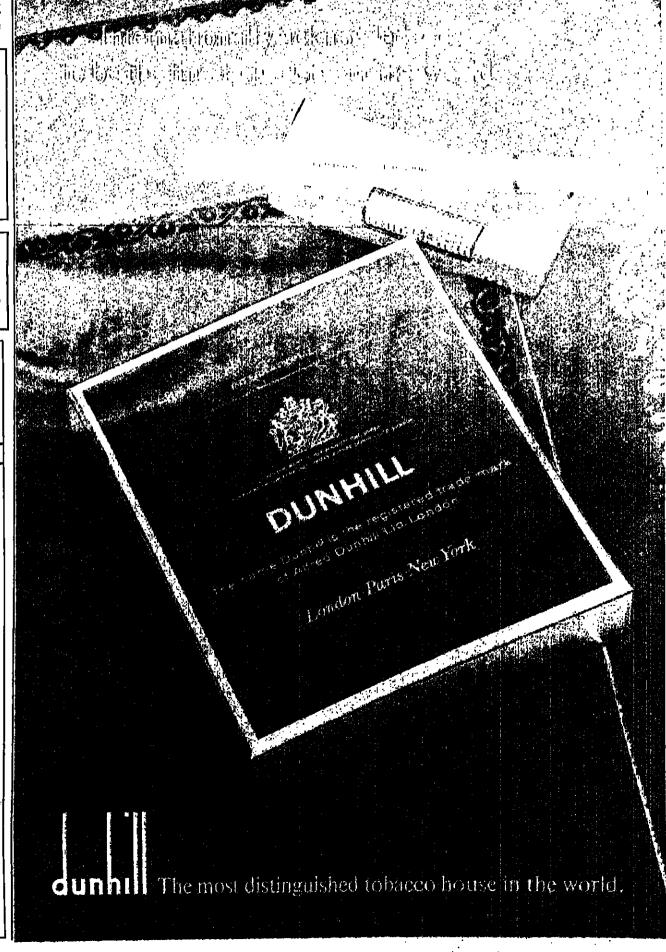
about expanding. The Middle East had potential for new or established insurers, but for those who rush in the results

Bevins was reluctant to comment authoritatively on the local scene, but he said he While products liability was had detected a "soft" market, and from his international experience warned against the

Geoff Olsen, Royal's New Zealand manager, said that local competition is intensifying. There is an absence of corporate discipline, and in certain areas industry controls are proving inadequate.

Both Bevins and Olsen predicted the use of more sophisticated computers which would result in more efficient use of their resources, thus rewarding duties.

products, said Bevins, but he warned against introducing new types of contracts without needs or the long-term results



# Analysing annual accounts by Peter V. O'Brien NEW ZEALAND Cement Holdings Ltd has produced another informative report, which provides must of the grant of statute-required in Authorities", but says nothing two exceptions. The company fails to report along profit, and the usual rundown of statute-required in Authorities", but says nothing two exceptions. The company fails to report for turnover, a group trading profit, and the usual rundown of statute-required in Occasions Secretions. Authorities", but says nothing about the breakdown of those costs. Production of this information is important because, as said here on many of statute-required in Occasions Secretions.

# Another tough year for the NZ economy

THE New Zealand economic problem is summed up in two Quarterly Predictions from the Institute of Economic will continue to have a tough Research: "But it is in- time in 1979. In addition, the creasingly clear that not all institute notes that it does not major economic goals are expect any major im-achievable in the short term provements in world trade. and policy depends less on Overseas views reinforce traditional cyclical measures that opinion. While forecasters import bill, with no noticeable specificed. In a world predictions, parvery broad sense this entails a ticularly when they are process.

States outlook for 1979. But Samuelson also considers that things will not be bad for long, trade off between unemployment and the balance of mendations, there is much be determined to the process.

States outlook for 1979. But Speaking overall about the balance of payments, the institute again hits on the trade-stitute again hits on the t

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that policy will be largely unchanged from the present stance'

That means New Zealand

comparative performances

of NZ public companies

third quarters of the year, ears?). when — according to figures from Data Resources Inc. (a

The figures were published recently in a London Financial Times article written by Paul Samuelson on the United States outlook for 1979. But Speaking overall about the

"Given these additional uncertainties, we have assumed "mild" recession this year. It certainties, we have assumed is expected in the second and familiar ring to New Zealand expected to end within the next six months, and a fairly rapid deterioration will ensue as

Since the Institute of highly respected forecasting organisation)—there will be a negative growth in real gross prices. The predictions said nothing about possible price Economic Research published

ployment and the balance of payments."

The description of the payments in the balance of payments is almost totally the payments in the balance of payments is almost totally the payments. "shifting from fighting in- result of falling demand. This

company

How do you decide which shares to buy? You make time-

consuming comparisons, often frustrated by gaps in comparable information. But now you can find out instantly

how companies compare in size, profitability, assets, return on shareholders' funds, etc. in the only publication that ranks

every one of New Zesland's 242 listed public companies on

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Who's Who, is now available. The guide, which also contains separate reports, facts and figures on each individual company,

provides all the data you need to make informed investment decisions and is a valuable reference source for internal

eight different performance factors.

problems of unemployment nd inflation, and the dilemma is seen. Cut off one of the monster's three heads and the other two grow in size. That is the reality behind the myths of economic wizardry, and it is a reality which

demands more imagination

then has so far been shown in

tackling the country's

import demand rises again to

support a modest economic

NBR discussed this problem

several times last year. The

import bill, with no noticeable

New Zealand economy is

Now you can take the guesswork out of share buying and problems. The institute has assumed no change in government policy when making its 1979-80 forecasts. "This could prove to be a somewhat unrealistic assumption as the elections take place after this issue goes to press". As this an echo of the little argument between NBR and the institute in 1978 about the effect of politics on

economic decision making?) The nature of any policy changes is hard to assess. The rapid growth in money supply which has been apparent in recent months will have to slow down, whether by general forces or by new policies. In the year to March the overall growth in M3 should decline with the recent high level as taxes flow into the Government's purse, particularly from companies which no longer have the benefits of the stock allowance. But the growth rate in private sector credit has to come back rapidly if the "target" of

between 10 and 15 per cent is to

be reached by year end. The institute sums up the problem: "The severity of the recent recession has resulted in some easing of the rate of inflation, although the estimated domestic outlay deflator for 1978-79 is still in double figures. In the context of recent rapid expansion of the money supply, reduced stocks, and firmer consumption demand, this im provement will be difficult to sustain in the coming year, chosen. In the final analysis, containing inflation may constitute the Government's

greatest challenge."
Since the institute is forecasting a 2 per cent growth in real gross domestic product, that the balance of payments deficit will rise to \$960 million, and that average domestic inflation will edge up to 12 per course, have an occupations hazard. Gloomy prediction may be seen by politicians as glimpse of reality, promptle them to adopt policies which nullify the forecasts.

Economic forecasters,

the previous year, it follow

Whether the Government has the will or the wit, in conjunction with bureaucrats, to adopt such policies will be the economic question of 1979.

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# by Peter V. O'Brien NEW ZEALAND Cement Holdings Ltd has produced another informative report, which provides must of the information needed by users of accounts Authorities", but says nothing about the breakdown of those costs. Production of this information is important. Authorities", but says nothing about the breakdown of those costs. Production of this information is important. By Peter V. O'Brien The company fails to report its expenses, giving a figure for turnover, a group trading for turnover, a group trading for turnover, a group trading about the breakdown of those costs. Production of this information is important. By Peter V. O'Brien The company fails to report its expenses, giving a figure for turnover, a group trading for turnover, and the usual rundown of the group trading for turnover, a group trading for turnover, a group trading for turnover, a group trading for turnover, and the group trading for t

pretty sight for cement companies, which suffered from the substantial downturn in housebuilding and commercial construction. NZ Cement has reported fairly well on the events, and its

Phillipines, and Japan.

withdrawal from Australia

were industrial unrest and

Australia had originally been considered as the locale for a

regional centre what reasons

militated against its selection.

In order of importance they

listed: geographical isolation

and travel costs, cost of

operations, labour unrest,

United States subsidiaries in

Australia loses allure

about a company's activities. about a company's activities, company benefit from the The information on taxation stock adjustment allowance, if

Reverting to the expenses uestion, it should be noted that a company does itself a headquarters have either Australia have regional publish such information. The shifted back to the United responsibility for fewer accounts of a major public accounts of a major public States or to South-east Asian countries or territories in company these days have to countries, particularly Asia and the Pacific than in note the political (in the broad Singapore, Hong Kong, 1973 when the last survey was sense) environment in which Asia and the Pacific than in note the political (in the broad longer possible to follow the philosophy of the "tell 'em nothing" school. companies surveyed had

regional responsibility for For example, sales declined Japan. Today that number has 2.8 per cent on the year, which Figures on exports from Australia by United States is probably a much more substantial amount in real terms, after taking into acsubsidiaries and affiliates count prices increases and the indicate that the percentage of effects of a 15.5 per cent drop their exports generated by the in the cement tonnage sold.

fallen in recent years, and it is But group trading profit, at generally believed that this is \$7,663,112, was 19.3 per cent political and economic uncertainty, and more effective diminishing number of suggesting that cost rises were control from the United States. American firms siting their an additional drag on profits, The survey shows that regional headquarters in the apart from the slump in ton-

formation is regularly omitted from the reports of many companies, but it is important,

profits". That amount jumped

A breakdown of what hap-pened to the expenses would tell people more about trading

general understanding of the

company's profitability

Explanations of balance

sheet changes are better than

the information in the profit

and loss account, suggesting

that the company can provide

the appropriate statements

Cement

21 per cent last year.

because lack of disclosure can disguise an overal deterioration in financial stability and strength.

The group is financially strong, and a passage from the text emphasises the good control of recent years: 'Nevertheless the company is in remarkably good shape. It has survived satisfactorily the critical period immediately following the completion of the Westport extension when liquidity was stretched, and it has reduced its overall liabilities from a balance date peak of \$22 million in 1976 to

\$16.7 million as 31st July last. figure for "general ad-ministration", which is deducted from "total trading That statement is true, but ts validity would be enhanced dicated. The figures would then underpin the statement made in the text, and also support the textual comment ''although some adverse comment is sometimes made reases, these have been no greater than the overall rise in the Consumer Price Index during the period and have had to include such major imposts as the 12.5 per cent increase in rail freight that became effective in July 1978."

That may be true, but when tells will we see the dollar impact of shareholders what happened to stock levels, alterations to bank overdraft, and changes to debtors' figures. This in-

#### penses by deducting group is less than adequate. The at all? What is the carry fortrading profit from turnover, company has the following ward amount of tax concompany has the following note in the accounts: "Inward amount of tax conbut that tells the reader of the cessions, if any? These report only a global figure. The Incentives and other deducin the accounts of a company tible items are in excess of like NZ Cement, because it is profits and consequently there which allowed a price increase impossible to assess the by the "Price Control group's financial situation

Correspondent

AUSTRALIA may losing its appeal to American investment, according to a report by the American Chamer of Commerce in Australia.

United States direct private investment in Australia is reported to have increased by only \$US295 million in 1977. compared with a rise of \$US395 million the previous year.

The analysis of United States investment in Australia conducted by the American Chamber of Commerce shows that the increase of \$US295 million in 1977 represents a growth of 5.4 per cent, while on a global basis American direct investment grew by an average of 9 per cent during the same period.

Australia's share of United States direct investments has been declining since 1971, when it accounted for 4.32 per cent of the world-wide total. By 1976, its share had declined to 3.97 per cent and last year fell

to 3.87 per cent.
The manufacturing share of American investment in Australia also continued its downward trend of recent years, and mining and smelting investment showed only a "token rise" over the previous year.

The largest gain was made in the area designated by the survey as "trade" which rose \$US72 million to a total of \$U8440 million — an increase of 19.6 per cent.

Investment in machinery was the biggest gainer in the manufacturing sector, and chemicals advanced strongly. Investment in food products recorded a modest gain but transportation equipment

showed a fall. In finance and insurance investment rose from \$US292 million in 1976 to \$US334 million in 1977.

One of the most dramatic changes reported by the American Chamber of Commerce in Australia is the sharp drop in the income of United States affiliates in the country which fell from \$US819 million in 1976 to \$U\$690 million in 1977 \_ a decline of 18.7 per cent. Fees and royalties, on the

Another survey by the American Chamber of Commerce says that Australia is also losing some of its appeal as the regional headquarters for United States firms.

Five years ago a similar survey revealed that 170 United States companies had located their headquarters in Australia. Today that number has fallen by 6 per cent to 160. Several companies have ceased their business operations in Australia altogether, others which have moved their regional

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Leonardo didn't have the incentive to develop his invention. That's too often been the way: it was the same problem nearly 500 years later when the helicopter was rediscovered in England. A lack of

later when the helicopter was rediscovered in England. A lack of encouragement at the crucial moment meant that great invention was manufactured in America. How many ideas of genius level have perished through a simple lack of incentive. UDC Finance Ltd knows what the right recognition at the right time can do. Brilliant ideas, generated in New Zealand, will not perish through lack of support. The UDC Inventors' Award is an annual award. Since its introduction in 1973 a total of \$12,000 has been won by N.Z. Inventors — by the inventor of a filtration plant for the effluent from wool scouring works; the inventor of a multiple water-driven turbine; of a filter ozone spectrophotometer, and last year by the inventor of an intensive care incubator for premature bables. All important ideas; all foreign currency earners in the international markets.

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## Benefits for NZ in successful EMS scheme

A successful scheme of closer monetary co-operation would lead to a "zone of monetary stability in Europe" (taken from the communique of the Bremen European Council, July 6-7 1978).

The governments par-ticipating in EMS consider that the establishment of a stable and durable monetary system is in the interests of all

If exchange rates were to the average of European receive new stability there currencies as the goal for In longer term investment gone beyond the British decisions, and a lift in

tors are in our interests, as is any system which inflation rate, there would be can act as a form of back- considerable costs internally. THE art (or science) of up or support for the US because the restrictions fortune telling is difficult at dollar, and reduce pressure on necessary to achieve German any time. It has become

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THE rather esoteric topic of the European Monetary System has considerable importance for New Zealand, although the link between EMS and our economy is indirect.

The fact that the British deflationary that they would affect growth, both in the countries having to take the affect growth, both in the population, have done what there is fundamental opposition. The British at this stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to a stable exchange at the stage prefer to put domestic policy first, which should lead to to a stable exchange rate. In about technical aspects of

> before Christmas that the "resource transfers" to their for entry to EMS by the

The UK also apparently saw nembers of the community. exchange stability related to

> stabilised around the German inflation rates would be so

> > Current Previous Per Cont Period Year Change

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principle. "resource transfers" worth
"Reliable sources" suggest 275 million pounds over five addition there are reservations that this was part of the debate years, or less than half what on the British side, because was asked for. Although some exchange stability and control of these technical questions While people in London have of inflation are inseparable. have interest for specialists, a fear of statements being The Italians and the Irish, on they have little to do with the attributed to them, it became the other hand, saw benefits effects of EMS on New clear to me in discussions which could flow from Zealand. political time is inappropriate countries from EMS. In the question of world trade, any

Apart from the overall Irish case it was suggested in a stability in European ex-White Paper on EMS that the pressure to hold the exchange rates, plus the more distant possibility that this rate could force the deficit in

A stable European currency scene could help to iron out policies in member counting those movements which have seen interest and capital repayment bills increase by margins up to 50 or 60 per cent in short periods.

The outcome would depend on how EMS related to the have been wandering up and weighted basket of currencies down the currency trees to which sets the value of the New some years. Zealand dollar, but there could be a useful spinoff.

In general terms, there is a consensus that if EMS is which EMS implies in the balance of payments down the US dollar (which has been sustainable it will grow domestic economies could would be an improvement in achievement. But the system world trade, greater certainty in longer term investment as it emerged seems to have in longer term investment as it emerged seems to have the country's published long weeks, particularly in the country's published long weeks.

stabilising force in Europe and will carry the implication that domestic economic will come closer together.

But entrenchment remain to be seen, at a time wha calthough successful, in it

benefit New Zealand in a fer

# As New Zealand is a trading nation these factors and in a trading nation these factors are in a trading nation these factors are in a trading nation these factors are in a trading nation the major evil) was to be in the major evil) was to be

by Peter V O'Brien

harder in recent years when looking at investment and economic matters.

There was a day (probably pre-OPEC and pre-flexible interest rates) when one could analyse with reasonable confidence what would happen in broad terms in a given year. The world economy and the New Zealand economy have become much more volatile since then, with both international and national action on an official level leaving the analyst or forecaster with the need to be flexible, and to talk only in terms of what will be happening in the event of no policy changes.

The investment outlook for 1979 faces those problems. Several things are known about developments if there are no policy changes. Unfortunately that knowledge is not confined to a privileged few, and therefore the developments will lead inevitably to policy changes.

The first point is that something will have to be done about monetary policy. The M3 definition of money, and private sector credit, were growing too fast at the end of last year. While the Government must, for political reasons, claim it has the situation under control, its

Second, inflation seems likely to stay around present levels as a result of the impact of other policies. Third, the That is the technical side of

mentioned earlier.

INVESTOR INSIGHT

unemployment level will remain high. Fourth, the balance of payments is unlikely to show any significant improvement, particularly if overseas forecasts of a downturn, led by the United States, prove correct. If that happened, some easing of export receipts could be expected later in the year, while we might still be paying a higher total bill for

"stimulated" industry. The interaction of these various matters suggests that interest rates will remain fairly high this year, with variations being dependent on what the Government decides to do in the marketplace.

High interest rates have their usual technical effect on the sharemarket, particularly in regard to the longer term rate on fixed term securities. claim is valid only so long as it As interest rates rise, so do makes regular, and dividend yields. With the sometimes rapid, policy exception of cases where exception of cases where dividend payments have been increased, a lift in a dividend yield must result in a cut in share price.

company profitability, first if then in the light of possible policy changes to counteract the effects of the problems

the increase in imports needed to satisfy the demands of

comments can be made about likely price movements, and

the calculation. Looking at the manufacturing, urban car fundamentals, broad sales and retail estate work, policy stays the same, and the car market, although The retail sector had a good

Christmas. That was the culmination of a steady upturn which started as the Government pumped money into the economy through tax cuts, back pay, payouts to the farming community, and the other policies which resulted in the present unusually high budgetary deficit.

The retailers should enjoy the benefits of those moves for a few more months. 'Their profitability will then depend on the extent to which monetary conditions tighten, and any decisions (probably in the 1979 Budget) to attempt further redirection of the

The construction sector seems destined to have another dull year, with the possible exception of those companies which are growing at the expense of competitors. A company like Mainzeal may come within that category.

Stock and station groups expect a reasonable period, at least for the first six months. In the second half of 1970 rising farm costs could again come up against static price realisations, thus putting pressure on the farmers' profitability. At that point the stock and station organisations would see their farm debt rising, whereas in 1978 (after a frightening start to the year) they saw it decline as official action pushed considerable sums into the

The stock companies' non-

and sundry activities, will vary depending on the business mix. For example, improving at the end of last year, is unlikely to go into a boom, but activities which are export oriented should still provide the companies with reasonable profits, as well as the usual tax concessions.

Exports will again be the key to overall profitability in industry. Apart from the stimulation (much of which appears artificial and unable to be maintained) of the economy, manufacturers wil be taking advantage of markets outside New Zealand to lift production, improve total dollar returns, and to receive tax advantages under the incentive schemes.

More activity in takeovers is probable, if the events of the ast three months in 1978 are a guide. Picking the likely candidates is the problem for investors, but good picking will lead to substantial capita

discovers some dramatic new strike, or the world prices for our primary produce soar (all unlikely events) the equity murket overall should be quid this year, with a few companies, as usual, doing better than the field.

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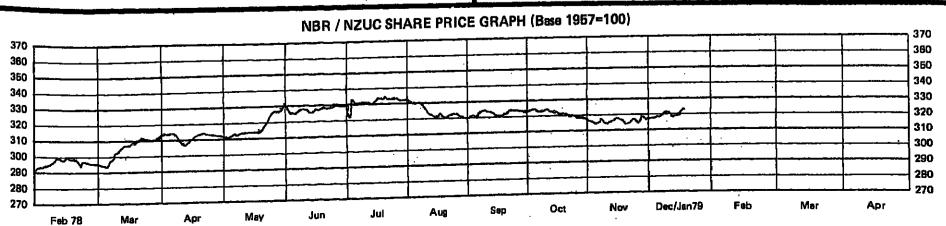
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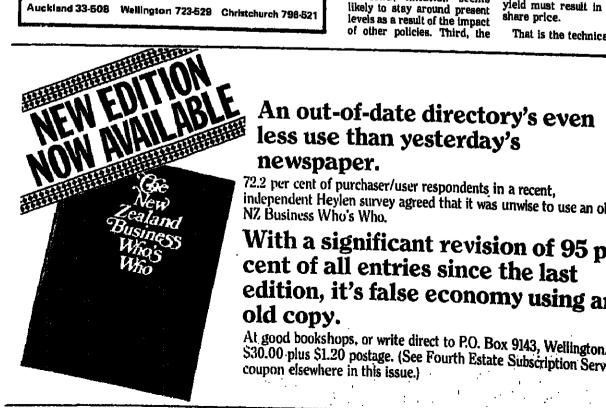
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## NBR SHAREMARKET SURVEY

**WEEK ENDING JANUARY 18, 1979** 





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